THE

SCOTS MAGAZINE,

AND

Edinburgh Literary Miscellany,

FOR FEBRUARY 1807:

With a Map of the District thro' which the proposed CANAL *from* PERTH *to* LOCH-EARN *is to be carried.*

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State

State of the BAROMETER, in inches and decimals, and of Farenheit's THERMOMETER, in the open air, taken in the morning before sun-rise, and at noon; and the quantity of rain-water fallen, in inches and decimals, from January 26. to February 25. 1807, in the vicinity of Edinburgh.

1806. Jan.	Barom.	Thermom. M.	Thermom. N.	Rain. In. Pts.	Weather.
26	30.05	42	46	0.11	Rain
27	30.	33	44	——	Clear
28	29.93	38	45	——	Ditto
29	29.92	34	44	——	Ditto
30	29.9	40	40	0.1	Slee
31	29.41	34	34	0.04	Snow
Feb. 1	29.2	27	32	——	Clear
2	29.	31	40	0.15	Rain
3	29.2	32	41	——	Clear
4	29.21	34	38	0.03	Snow
5	29.24	32	35	——	Clear
6	29.25	30	34	——	Ditto
7	29.88	32	43	——	Ditto
8	29.8	38	40	0.1	Rain
9	29.6	42	42	0.06	Ditto
10	29.61	33	43	——	Clear
11	29.65	48	49	0.05	Rain
12	29.58	40	50	——	Clear
13	29.57	45	51	——	Ditto
14	29.57	43	50	——	Ditto
15	29.55	50	53	0.05	Rain
16	29.5	41	45	0.04	Showers
17	29.5	33	37	——	Clear
18	29.5	24	39	——	Ditto
19	29.51	23	42	——	Ditto
20	29.53	39	48	——	Ditto
21	29.58	35	49	——	Ditto
22	29.58	39	40	——	Ditto
23	29.58	30	42	——	Ditto
24	29.59	35	43	0.02	Snow
25	29.6	34	42	——	Clear
				——	
				Quantity of Rain 0.75	

High Water at LEITH, For MARCH 1807.

Days.	Morn. H. M.	Even H. M.
Su. 1	8 1	8 27
M. 2	8 54	9 20
Tu. 3	9 46	10 10
W. 4	10 35	10 58
Th. 5	11 22	11 44
Fr. 6	——	0 6
Sa. 7	0 27	0 49
Su. 8	1 10	1 31
M. 9	1 52	2 13
Tu. 10	2 33	2 54
W. 11	3 15	3 36
Th. 12	3 58	4 21
Fr. 13	4 44	5 7
Sa. 14	5 31	5 56
Su. 15	6 22	6 48
M. 16	7 15	7 42
Tu. 17	8 10	8 38
W. 18	9 6	9 34
Th. 19	10 2	10 31
Fr. 20	10 59	11 27
Sa. 21	11 54	——
Su. 22	0 22	0 49
M. 23	1 17	1 44
Tu. 24	2 11	2 39
W. 25	3 7	3 35
Th. 26	4 3	4 31
Fr. 27	5 0	5 28
Sa. 28	5 57	6 25
Su. 29	6 53	7 20
M. 30	7 47	8 12
Tu. 31	8 38	9 2

MOON's PHASES, For MARCH 1807.

Apparent time at Edinburgh.

	D.	H.	M.	
Last Qurtr.	1.	6	9	morn.
New Moon,	9.	8	40	morn.
First Qurtr.	17.	7	2	morn.
Full Moon,	23.	9	57	even.
Last Qurtr.	30.	9	32	even.

March 11. Session rises.

THE
Scots Magazine,
AND
EDINBURGH LITERARY MISCELLANY,
For FEBRUARY 1807.

An Account of the proposed Canal *from* Perth *to* Loch-Earn.

To the Editor.

SIR,

Having been favoured with the inclosed account of the proposed Tay and Loch-Earn Canal, I hope no apology is necessary for laying it before you. Your work embraces every object connected with national improvement, and cannot be indifferent to the previous steps which are necessary in order to diffuse a more vigorous cultivation over extensive tracts of country, of great natural fertility.

To this account I beg leave to subjoin a few remarks, which occurred in conversing on this subject with my worthy and ingenious friend Captain Fraser, who planned these navigable communications: a man whose eminent and multifarious talents have been unweariedly exerted in promoting the external safety and the internal prosperity of his country: or which were suggested during different excursions I made thro' the countries alluded to.

I have the honour to remain,
SIR,
Your obedient humble servant,
James Headrick.

Proposed Tay *and* Loch-Earn Canal.

IT is a kind of reproach to the boasted progress of science in this part of the united kingdom, that so few attempts have been made to facilitate the improvement of the country by means of an extensive system of inland navigation. In England there are no less than 48 navigable rivers, and these for a great distance from the sea. Notwithstanding which, their canals extending these natural navigations, or substituted in their place, are ramified so widely throughout the country as to render the river navigation almost insignificant, further than that their sources may serve as feeders to these artificial communications.

In Scotland we have only four rivers which are navigable, and these only to a comparatively very short distance from the sea. Notwithstanding which, this canal from the Tay, where the tide navigation ends, seems the only serious attempt to extend an inland communication from any of these navigable rivers; the Forth and Clyde, the Crinan and Caledonian canals, being merely communications from sea to sea for large vessels, to save circuitous navigations.

About thirty years ago, indeed, that very useful institution called the Board of Police, (which, to the great loss of Scotland, was suppressed by Mr Burke's bill,) projected some exten-

tensions of the navigation of the river Forth, and a line of canal from the Tay thro' the great valley of Strathmore. They had also ordered a survey of a canal towards Loch-Earn, but it is supposed to have been intended to be carried from the confluence of the Tay and Earn along the banks of that river.

In the beginning of last year, Capt. Fraser having examined the country from Perth to Crieff, and from thence to Loch-Earn, was of opinion that a canal could be brought from Loch-Earn to the summit level of the country between Crieff and Perth at a moderate expence, and suggested to the Earl of Breadalbane, Colonel Graham, Sir Patrick Murray, and other gentlemen, that a meeting should be held to endeavour to set forward this undertaking. A meeting of the gentlemen of the county was accordingly convened at Perth on the 16th of Jan. 1806, by Colonel Graham, and resolutions were entered into, highly approving of the proposed navigation, and resolving that measures should be taken for making a survey and estimate of the same.

The Earl of Breadalbane, chairman of the meeting, having afterwards obtained a part of the balances of the forfeited estates towards the undertaking, ordered Captain Fraser to proceed in making the necessary surveys under the direction of Mr Rennie. These accordingly have been recently and minutely inspected by that eminent engineer, and the line of canal fixed upon so as not to interfere with any gentleman's pleasure ground on the whole length of the line, and to be in all other respects perfectly unobjectionable.

It is to be what is called a small canal, navigable only for boats of 20, or 25 tons burthen. The breadth will be about 14 feet at bottom, 28 or 30 feet at top, and the depth 4 feet and a-half. The length from the Tay to the west end of Loch-Earn, 40 miles.

The canal begins on the South of the town of Perth, communicating with the Tay by a dock and bason in the South Inch, from which a deep canal is to be made to the Tay at Friartown, which dock and deep canal are proposed to be made at the expence of the town of Perth, to enable shipping to avoid the bar in the river, and also to accommodate the canal boats. From thence the canal winds beautifully thro' the lands on the South and West of the town, crossing the Crieff road about a quarter of a mile above the turnpike gate. It then proceeds by the extensive bleaching and printing fields of the Tulloch, Ruthven, and Huntingtower companies: from thence it rises towards the plain, below the wood of Methven, by a flight of locks to the Crieff summit level, being then about 126 feet above the tideway at Perth. This level, which can thus be carried to Crieff, a distance of more than 12 miles, thro' a very fertile country, where there is no rock, but merely excellent ground to cut thro', it has been found, can also be carried Eastward, across the river Almond, by an aqueduct at or near the old bridge, winding thro' an extensive tillage country to the banks of the Tay at Stanley, and from thence can be carried up the banks to Kinclaven, and to within two miles of Dunkeld, forming a summit level from Crieff of nearly thirty miles. It thus appears, that if proper investigation were made, many extensive levels might be found winding thro' the bases of the mountainous parts of Scotland, which, to an engineer not acquainted with them, would *a priori* be deemed impossible. To the Dunkeld end of this summit level, there can be no difficulty of dropping lines of Canal from the most internal parts of the central highlands; for instance, from Loch Tay,

Tay, which is itself a natural navigation of eighteen miles, and from Loch Rannoch and Loch Tummel by the Tummell and Garry. But these are not the whole advantages of this extensive summit level. A line from thence may be thrown across the Tay, either at the Thistle bridge near Stanley, at the linn of Campsie, or at Kinclaven, opposite to the Isla river, and can certainly be directed thro' the whole of the great valley of Strathmore to the German ocean, either at Montrose, Arbroath, or any intermediate point which may be deemed most eligible; all of which branches may be hereafter executed, according as the resources of the country may be found adequate to their being accomplished, provided the main line to Loch Earn is first carried into execution. From that Loch the most abundant supply of water can be obtained, not only for the canal and all its branches, but in aid of bleachfields, machinery, and other manufactures that may be erected on its banks, and also for irrigation of land. In the mountains on the west end of Loch-Earn there are inexhaustible supplies of excellent lime-stone stratified in layers or beds, with which Mr Rennie proposes to build the locks of the canal, for which, and for all purposes of building, it is extremely well adapted, as it can be raised in blocks of any size, and of considerable thickness, and will form for the purpose of building alone a considerable article of traffic on the canal. But the most extensive use of this lime stone will be for agriculture. The lime-stone can be put into the boats at Loch Earn for 1s. 6d. per ton, and carried along the canal and all its branches for three half-pence per ton per mile, and can be delivered at Perth for 6s. 6d. per ton; so that lime can be manufactured there by coals brought from the Forth, and sold to the farmers at 2s. 8d. the boll, which costs at the lowest price 3s. 10d., and even 4s. 4d. and often 5s. and 5s. 6d. per boll. It is supposed that at least 20,000 acres of land, within the distance of five or six miles of the canal, will be annually manured with ten tons of lime-stone per acre, made into lime; which will amount to 200,000 tons of lime stone, and will leave for lockage dues a sum of at least 15,000l; and that coals, timber, slates, wool, bark, grain, lead, will produce, at threepence per ton per mile 5,000l. more: altogether 20,000l. per annum. The sum that will be necessary for the main line is supposed to be 130,000l. So that there is little room to doubt but that people who are accustomed to speculate in this species of property will be ready to subscribe liberally towards the completion of this undertaking. The 20,000 acres above mentioned do not amount to above one eighth part of the lands already under cultivation within a moderate distance of the canal, exclusive of the Carse of Gowrie, which, it is believed, will be supplied with lime from the canal, and where it is computed that 5,000 acres are manured with lime every year, which, at ten tons of lime-stone per acre, would be 50,000 tons additional, and which, leaving the whole lockage dues for a revenue in the canal to Perth, of one penny per ton per mile, would realize an additional revenue of 7,000l. per annum, making the whole clear income upwards of 27,000l. per annum, allowing 4,000l. per annum for expence of management, the neat income will be more than 23,000.

This project has met with the most liberal encouragement from all the proprietors, who have not objected even that the canal should encroach upon their pleasure grounds, which, however, every effort has been made to avoid. Sir Peter Murray, with that patriotism for which he is so much distinguished, has not only grant-

granted free liberty to bring the canal thro' any part of his grounds, but has declared he will give all of his land, which it may occupy, for nothing, and has set on foot a subscription paper, with a view to persuade the other proprietors to do the same.

It is anxiously wished that another branch may be extended from the Crieff summit level to join the Forth by the valley of Strathallan, but this has not been found practicable at so easy an expence as the main line to Perth, and the other branches; still it is hoped that Mr Rennie will be able to accomplish this desirable object next summer.

REMARKS.

1. I believe the size proposed for this canal is exactly the same with that of the Monkland canal near Glasgow. But by having the locks of sufficient length to admit them, flat bottomed vessels carry every day thro' that canal, instead of 20 or 25 tons, from 60 to 80 tons of coals to Greenock. They are managed by two men; have moveable masts, and use sails when they reach the Frith of Clyde, when the wind is favourable. A large board is let down from the leeward side, which serves instead of a keel, like that used by Dutch schuits. On the canal they are drawn by one horse.

2. With regard to the branch proposed to be carried to within two miles of Dunkeld, I remark, that below that town there are inexhaustible slate quaries, for which the canal would open an extensive market. With regard to the Tummel and the Garry, these are rapid streams, which have cut deep chasms among mica-schistic rocks. Perhaps too much expence must be incurred in blasting rocks, were a canal carried far up these streams, tho' it may be carried a certain length with no difficulty.

Tho' the mica-schistic rocks close upon the Tay above Dunkeld, there are terraces on its south side, along which the canal may be conducted without interfering with rocks. Above this, the Tay flows with a smooth and equable current, through a beautiful valley, and I know of no obstructions in the way of a canal to Tay-mouth. As far as the eye can judge, Loch Tay seems to be nearly of the same horizontal elevation with Loch-Earn, which Captain Fraser ascertained to be 310 feet above tide at Perth. To join Loch-Tay with the Crieff level, below Dunkeld, would therefore require only a lockage of 184 feet, as this is 160 feet above tide at Perth.

Near the head of Loch Tay, promising lead-mines have lately been discovered. At Taynedrum inexhaustible lead mines have long been known and wrought; but they are obliged to bring the coal for smelting the ore from Bannockburn, near St Ninians, and send the lead to Alloa, before it can be shipped for a market. With such distant land carriage, and frequently steep roads, it is evident that these mines cannot be wrought with advantage.

From the head of Loch-Tay, to within 3 or 4 miles of Taynedrum, (back of Tay,) the river is a stagnant canal, or a chain of lakes. To render it navigable, it seems only necessary to clear it in some places, and make a pathway for dragging boats; which would carry a navigation into the center of the Grampians, terminating at a point where there are vast rocks of sparry limestone.

A narrow ridge separates the summit of this proposed navigation from Loch-Lomond. Perhaps a tunnel might be cut betwixt them thro' the lime-stone, the value of which would defray the expence, or some other way may be found of forming a junction. The navigation might then descend Loch-Lomond and the Leven to Dumbarton, or cross the narrow

row isthmus of Tarbet to Loch-Long at Arroquhar. This would form a navigable communication between the Frith of Tay and the western ocean.

3. Were Loch-Tay locked down to the Crieff level, I conceive a branch might be thrown over the river at that particular elevation, which would carry a canal, not only thro' Strathmore without any additional lockage, but enable it to ramify thro' the extensive country north of Dunkeld, where, I understand, there are vast rocks of sparry lime-stone.

Strathmore is the extensive tract included between the Siedlay hills and the Grampians. It is every where endowed with great natural fertility. Thro' it a canal may be carried on a dead level; passing near Cupar, Forfar, Brechin, Laurencekirk, &c. until it is locked down into the sea at Stonehaven, on the borders of Aberdeenshire, where the valley terminates. Branches may also be sent down to Montrose, Arbroath, and other ports on the coast.

4. I understand the only obstacle in the way of throwing a branch from the Loch-Earn canal down Strathallan, is, that the lowest part of the ridge which separates these two straths, between the Ruthven and the Allan, is above the level, and it would there require a tunnel of several miles to unite the Straths. But I conceive a very short tunnel would effect the object, through the ridge between Drummond castle and Muthel; or that a passage might be found thro' a glen South-west of Braco castle, by which Loch-Earn may be made to form a junction with the proposed canal from Stirling to Callender, or may be turned down Strathallan as at first proposed. If a tunnel is resorted to, the rock to be cut is soft, brown, sand-stone, which will defray the expence of cutting by its use in building locks and bridges. The canal may then be conducted to the mouths of the coal-pits near Alloa: or, as it is proposed to cut the links of Forth, so as to admit vessels of from 300 to 400 tons, by a short passage, to Stirling bridge, it may be proper to terminate the Strathallan branch at this place. It will thus command all the coal near the Forth, which meeting the lime-stone of Loch-Earn, cannot fail to spread fertility over a very extensive tract of country.

Thus from the Forth on the South, to the borders of Aberdeenshire on the North, a navigable communication may be obtained, joined with the Tay at Perth, and passing thro' a country of uninterrupted fertility: besides numerous branches thrown off from different points of elevation, to intersect extensive tracts of fertile land, or to reach lime-stone and metallic ores.

5. The lime-stone which is found on Loch-Earn, and of which there are vast mountains, is small grained spar, of a blue colour, of various intensity, with many irregular veins of white spar. It varies in purity from about 90 to 99 per cent. of carbonate of lime, and much of it is absolutely pure, the medium purity being about 96. The same lime-stone occurs in Blair-Athol, and is the only rock for 3 or 4 miles. Like the other rocks which compose the Grampians, it is supposed to run from S. W. to N. E. to an extent that has not yet been traced. I doubt not but it may be found on Tay as well as Loch-Earn, and that much of it would furnish marble blocks of singular beauty.

6. In estimating the Loch-Earn canal, our correspondent confines his views to the average quantity of lime used at present. But if the farmers had easy access to lime, without a distant sea and land carriage, they would, probably, use this article much more liberally, on their cultivated lands than

than they do at present; and there is much good land now waste, which, easy access to lime would induce them to bring into cultivation. Nor does he take into view the conveyance of land produce to the towns, and the return of putrescent manures to the land which are calculated to create, and do actually create, a very great traffic upon the Monkland and other canals. Nor is there any mention made of passage and market boats, which yield a very great revenue on many English canals.

7. Were coals brought to meet the pure and powerful streams of the Earn, and especially of the Tay, there can be no doubt but these rivers would soon be stocked with flourishing manufactories. These rivers, flowing from extensive lakes, are never so much swollen, nor so much diminished in strength, as those which are fed by mountain torrents. The purity of the water is well adapted for bleaching, calicoe printing, and for striking brilliant dyes; while the strength of the current is calculated to move machinery of the greatest power. The banks of the Leven, near Dumbarton, which are within the reach of water-borne coal, form a striking example of the effects that must result from bringing coals to meet these, and other rivers with which the proposed navigations will come in contact. These banks are almost a continued town, above where the tide stops water wheels, to Loch-Lomond; and every foot of fall in the river is occupied with powerful machinery. I understand the woollen manufacture has already begun to make a little progress in some of the Grampian districts. Were the wool produced in these mountains only brought the length of yarn, in which most of the operations, particularly the carding and roving, are now effected by water force, a vast increase would be added to the value of the wool, and many idle hands would be employed. But it is likely that access to coal would soon excite the weaving, dyeing, and dressing of the cloth; and that the Grampian wool would be sent to market in the form of fabrics ready for use.

All these circumstances could not fail to create a traffic upon these canals, far beyond what entered into the contemplation of our correspondent when he formed his estimate.

Government have lately shewn a laudable zeal in promoting internal improvements; and, I doubt not, will be heartily disposed to lend the most liberal aid to an undertaking of this magnitude. The public suffers nothing, but is rather a great gainer, by money laid out in internal improvements. This increases not only the numbers, but the capacity of the people who consume taxable commodities; and thus the money is soon returned to the Exchequer with a profit of perhaps, *cent per cent.* Internal improvements also enable the people to meet, without feeling the pressure, those additional burdens which it may be necessary to impose, in a crisis like the present, to vindicate the independency, and to uphold the glory of our country. Government, by persevering in the line of policy they have happily adopted, of giving public aid to useful undertakings, where such aid is necessary, will, in time, convert our little island into a vast city, swarming with industrious inhabitants, of which, navigable communications, and good roads, will form the several streets.

Query

Query respecting a Satire on JOHN KNOX's *History.*

To the Editor.

SIR,

IN the edition of *Leland's Collectanea*, printed for B. Whyte in 1774, volume 1st, at page XLIII, immediately after the preface, by T. Hearne, is a curious extract from the manuscript collections of *Robert Gordon of Straloch*, addressed to the reader of Archbishop Spottiswood's Church History; in which, after mentioning that it was Spottiswood's opinion that the work bearing the title of John Knox's history of the reformation was not truly the composition of that extraordinary man, the writer adds: "At non sensit ita "nobilis et eruditus regni Cancella- "rius Joannes Metellanus, eorum "temporum æqualis, qui illa omnia "apprime norat, quique acri et mor- "daci Epigrammate (quod adhuc "extat) in illum et historiam illam "lusit."

Can any of your readers point out where this satirical epigram, written by the Chancellor Maitland on *John Knox* and *his history*, is to be found? That there must have been numberless copies of it in circulation, we may be well assured; and that it was well known in Gordon's time, we see from the above passage in his MSS. Should any of your learned readers have met with this literary curiosity, it would be very meritorious to rescue it from oblivion by inserting it in your useful miscellany.

I am, Sir, &c.

Edinburgh, 29th Jan. 1807. *A. B.*

Supplement to the Account of SCOTS WRITERS.

PROFESSOR RICHARDSON.

To the Editor.

SIR,

IN your notices of eminent Scottish writers, taken from the work of Ferri de St Constant, you appear to have omitted the following tribute to the merit of a living ornament of the Glasgow University, Professor Richardson. I dare say you will now supply the omission, and am,

Sir, Yours, &c.

A. M. M.

(This was certainly an omission which we made in collecting the notices scattered through different parts of the volumes. It is as follows:)

Mr William Richardson, Professor of Belles Lettres at Glasgow, has published, "A Philosophical Analysis and Illustration of some of Shakespeare's remarkable characters. This is a philosophical work as well as a critical: the author, while he analyses the passions, judges if they be drawn under their true characters. It is one of the best works written upon Shakespeare; the style possesses great elegance, precision, and energy.

Account of the Assassination of the DUKE *of* HAMILTON *in* 1712.

[The only particular account of this memorable event is the following, extracted from "Transactions during the reign of Queen Anne," published at Edinburgh in 1790, by Charles Hamilton, Esq. The author, being a member of the illustrious house of Hamilton, was led to take a peculiar interest in the subject. As the work is little known, its insertion here will probably be acceptable to most of our readers.]

I Am at length touching the fatal period, at which Great Britain was deprived of a true patriot, and the Queen of a zealous friend; at which a great family was robbed of their illustrious head, and Virtue of her dauntless champion; at which fraud, treachery, envy, and violence, im-

imbrued their guilty hands in my noble progenitor's blood. My soul shrinks with horror at the bare idea of the hideous scene; yet must I be circumstantial; for the sum of this atrocity has never been fairly stated,

Upon the return of Lord Bolingbroke from Paris, her Majesty was pleased to nominate the Duke of Hamilton her ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to France. Previously to his setting off upon this embassy, his Grace laboured to bring to issue a Chancery suit, which for some time had lain depending between Lord Mohun and him, whose respective consorts were nieces of the late Earl of Macclesfield.—By particular appointment the two Lords met on the morning of the 13th of November, at the chambers of Mr Olebar, a master in Chancery. Upon hearing the evidence of Mr Whitworth, formerly steward of the Macclesfield family, an old man, whose memory was much impaired by age, the Duke of Hamilton said, "There is no truth or justice in him." Lord Mohun replied "I know Mr Whitworth; he is an honest man, and has as much truth as your Grace." This grating retort was not noticed by the Duke. Having concluded their business, the parties separated without any heat or apparent animosity *. Lord Mohun that night supped at the Queen's Arms tavern in Pall Mall, in the company of General Maccartney and Colonel Joseph Churchill, both violent men, and declared partisans of the Duke of Marlborough. From the tavern this Lord retired to his own house in Marlborough-street.—On the next morning, 14th of November, Lord Mohun paid an early visit to General Maccartney and Colonel Joseph Churchill, who both occupied lodgings in the same house. Attended by these two gentlemen, his Lordship afterwards proceeded to Marlborough-house; where it is but too plain that the offending party was prevailed upon to send a challenge to the party offended, (admitting that any offence had been meant by the one, and so understood by the other.) In the course of that morning General Maccartney went in a chair to the Duke of Hamilton's house, told the porter that he was a gentleman from the *north*, and wrote down his name in the porter's book. The General returned, that day, three different times to the Duke's house; at the last of which, towards four o'clock, he was admitted, delivered a message to the Duke from Lord Mohun, and was politely complimented to the door by his Grace.

Lord Mohun, at one o'clock, dined on that day at the Globe tavern with General Maccartney, Colonel Joseph Churchill, and Sir Robert Rich. He remained in the company of these two last gentleman, while the General absented himself. At about half past four o'clock, General Maccartney returned to the Globe tavern, and took Lord Mohun away with him to the Rose tavern, where having asked a waiter, "Whether the Duke of Hamilton was expected?" and having been answered in the affirmative, he desired, when he came, to be shewn into another room. The Duke entering the tavern soon after, inquired for General Maccartney, who, on hearing his Grace, immediately came out to him. Both retired into a private room, and ordered a bottle of claret, a part

* The above, and all the following circumstances, are extracted with fidelity from the different examinations taken before the privy-council, after the Duke's cruel catastrophe, and from the trial of General Maccartney before the court of King's Bench.

part of which they drank. After having remained about a quarter of an hour together, the Duke joined some company who expected him, and the General returned to my Lord Mohun, with whom he went away.

Lord Mohun that night again supped at the Queen's Arms in Pall-Mall, with the Duke of Richmond, Sir Robert Rich, Colonel Joseph Churchill, and a stranger. About twelve at night General Maccartney came in, took Lord Mohun to the bagnio in Long Acre, ordered a room with two beds, and left his Lordship in the care of a waiter, who pulled off his shoes and stockings, and gave him a night-gown.—The waiter deposed, "That Lord Mohun was very sober, but seemed thoughtful; that he walked up and down the room, with his arms folded up, for some time, before he went to bed." About an hour after his Lordship had been in bed, General Maccartney returned, went up to Lord Mohun's chamber, and disliking the appearance of the man who attended on Lord Mohun, he ordered up another, of whom he asked, "Do you like the French?" the other answered, "No;" whereupon he desired to be called at six o'clock in the morning,

Here were uncommon pains taken to keep up Lord Mohun's spirits, who seems to have had very little inclination for this duel. Yet he was not a novice at fighting, for his Lordship had been engaged in other broils *. Let us now inquire how it fared with his Grace? So little did he apprehend that foul play was designed against him, so free was his generous breast from fear or suspicion, that at seven o'clock on the next morning, 15th of Nov. as he was dressing himself to repair to the place appointed, he recollected that he stood in need of a second. In all haste he dispatched a footman to Colonel Hamilton in Charing-cross, with a request, that he would dress himself with expedition, as he would speedily be with him. The Duke stept into his chariot, ordered the coachman to drive to the Colonel's lodgings, went in and so hurried him away, that, as the Colonel deposed before the Privy Council, (the sequel is his deposition,) "I finished to button my waistcoat in the chariot. The Duke observing that I had forgot my sword, stopt his carriage, and gave his footman a bunch of keys, with orders to fetch a mourning-sword out of such a closet. At the footman's return, we drove on to Hyde Park, where the coachman stopt.—The Duke ordered him to drive on to Kensington. Coming to the lodge, we saw a hackney coach at a distance, in which his Grace said, "There was somebody he must "speak with;" but driving up to it and seeing no body, he asked the coachman, "Where are the gentle-"men you brought?" He answered, "A little before." The Duke and I got out in the bottom, and walked over the Pond's-head, when we saw Lord Mohun and General Maccartney before us. As soon as the Duke came within hearing, he said, "He "hoped he was come time enough." Maccartney answered, "In very good time, my Lord." After this we all jumpt over the ditch into the nursery; and the Duke turning to Maccartney, told him, "Sir, you are "the cause of this, let the event be "what it will." Maccartney answer-"ed, My Lord, I had a commission "for it." Then Lord Mohun said, "These gentlemen shall have nothing "to do here." At which Maccartney replied, "We will have our "share." Then, said the Duke, "Here

* Dean Swift, in his Four last Years, says, that Lord Mohun had twice been tried for murder.

"Here is my friend, he will take his "share in my dance." We all immediately drew; Maccartney made a a full pass at me, which parrying down with great force, I wounded myself in the instep; however I took that opportunity to close with and disarm Maccartney; which being done, I turned my head, and seeing my Lord Mohun fall, "with the Duke upon "him," I flung down both the swords and ran to the Duke's assistance. As I was raising up my Lord Duke, *I saw Maccartney make a push at his Grace.* I immediately looked whether he had wounded him, but perceiving no blood, I took up my sword, expecting that Maccartney would attack me again, but he walked off. Just as he was going, came up the keepers and others, to the number of nine or ten, among the rest, Fergusson, my Lord Duke's steward, who had brought Boussier's man with him (a surgeon) who, on opening his Grace's breast, soon discovered a wound on the left side, which entered between the left shoulder and pap, and went slantingly down through the midriff into his belly."

The surgeons who afterwards opened the body, at the same time, confirmed this circumstance. Let any person at all acquainted with the fencing attitudes determine, Whether such a wound could have been given by the opposed adversary in the act of fighting; or whether, while lying transfixed, extended on his back, he could have thrust his sword into his opponent's bosom, in the manner above described, particularly when it is considered, that the Duke had only accidentally slipped down upon the wet grass*?

John Reynolds of Price's Lodge further deposed, "That he was within thirty or forty yards from the Lords when they fell: That my Lord Mohun fell into the ditch upon his back, and the Duke of Hamilton leaning over him: That the two seconds ran in to them, and immediately himself, who demanded the seconds swords, which they gave him; but that he was *forced to wrest the Duke's sword out of his hand:* That he assisted in lifting up the Duke, who was lying on his face, and in supporting him, while he walked about thirty yards, when he said he could walk no farther."

It was thus the illustrious victim was immolated to the vindictive malice of a foe to the human race! Thus fell the flower of Nobility, the ornament of his age, and the pride of a country whom he loved, and by whom he was universally revered! My heart has bled at every line, while I have been retracing this abominable transaction.

A reverend author who celebrated the peace, in shedding a tributary tear to the memory of that great man, records his virtues in the following lines;

For *peace prepar'd the Duke*—Ah! sadly slain,
'Tis grief to name him whom we mourn in vain.
No warmth of verse repairs the vital flame.
For verse can only grant a life in fame:
Yet could my praise, like spicy odours shed,
In everlasting song embalm the dead;
To realms, that weeping heard the loss, I'd tell,
What courage, sense, and faith, with *Brandon* fell." PARNELL.

The

* Lest it should be surmised, that he might have held his sword in the left hand, it should here be mentioned, that in running Lord Mohun through the body, his Grace had received a wound in the right arm, which evinces that the right hand was his sword hand.

The Queen, weighed down with grief and horror, issued her royal proclamation. L. 500 were offered by her Majesty, and L. 500 more by the widowed Duchess, for apprehending the fugitive General Maccartney. The Peers of North Britain united in an address to the throne, "beseeching her Majesty, to be pleased to order applications to be made to all the Princes and States on the Continent, that they would not only refuse shelter to a man charged with so foul a crime, but cause him to be apprehended and delivered up to Great Britain, that he might be brought to public justice." Unavailable, however, proved every effort to have him apprehended; he not only escaped all pursuit at the time, but, in the end, was seen to triumph in his wickedness. Upon a reversal of his outlawry, he was only found guilty of manslaughter *.

Present State of SILESIA, *with a description of* BRESLAU *and* GLATZ.

(From Kuttner's Travels.)

BUSCHING computes the extent of Prussian Silesia and the county of Glatz at 642, but Zollner, probably from later and better information, fixes it at 685 geographical square miles. Busching estimates the population in 1755 at 1,162,355, and in 1774 at 1,372,754. Zollner states it from actual enumeration in the year 1791 to have been 1,747,065; and from a subsequent enumeration which I have seen, Silesia, in the year 1799 contained 1,884,632 persons, exclusive of the military. This is truly an astonishing increase in the space of 44 years, which moreover include the period of the seven years war.

With respect to the variety of its productions, and the diversity of its scenery, Silesia is a very remarkable country; in the north of Germany there is no province of like extent that is equal to it in this point. Its inhabitants are not less interesting, and are distinguished by their superiority over others under the same latitude. The native of Silesia, at least in those parts which I have visited, appears to me to possess greater vivacity than those of any other country between that Duchy and the North Sea; an imagination which continually impels him, and an activity which tends to the improvement of his social condition. He loves society, and holds in the highest estimation those arts and sciences, whose operation and influence are particularly directed to civil and social life.

We arrived at Breslau early on the 3d, and one of my first visits was to our friend Garve. The servant, who is probably not accustomed to see strangers in the company of his master, seemed at a loss whether he should announce me or not. I observed his perplexity, and informed him that I was an old acquaintance of his master, to whom I sent in my name. Though tolerably aware what a melancholy scene I had to expect, yet I was nevertheless shocked, when, as the door opened, Garve exclaimed, "You behold a miserable mortal." He was in bed, which he had not been able to leave for some time. I had not seen him for upwards of twenty years, and you may easily conceive what an alteration I found in him. I called to his remembrance the more agreeable days of former times, of his residence at Leipzig, and the friends whom he still has in that city; and after the first moments, during which he appeared to be greatly agitated, he recovered tha

* General Maccartney, some time after the Queen's death, surrendered himself, and taking his trial at the Court of King's Bench, was, on the 13th of June 1716, by the direction of the Court, acquitted of the murder, and found guilty of manslaughter only.

that cheerfulness and tranquillity of mind which had never deserted him amidst the cruel sufferings with which he has been afflicted. The conversation soon became lively, and I found that he still takes the warmest interest in all that relates to human society, that he keeps pace with his contemporaries, and is well informed on every subject that has yet excited curiosity in the extensive empire of science. My Northern tour interested him much, and he asked a great number of questions, not like one who impatiently wishes for the hour of his dissolution, but like a vigorous traveller, who is anxious to collect the observations of others, in order to avail himself of them in his own journey. We conversed a considerable time on various subjects, and I left him with inexpressible sorrow. Garve is one of the few whom I denominate philosophers of life, like Socrates, he has called down philosophy from heaven, and by its aid has improved society. Quitting the barren heights of metaphysical subtleties, he applied philosophy to the purposes of social life. I shall never see him again * !

The exterior of Breslau appeared to me as disagreeable as the smaller towns of Silesia were pleasing. It is a dirty, old and dull town, in which even the large and elegant structures are obscured with smoke and dirt. The public squares are spacious, and the streets are tolerably wide, which is absolutely necessary, as the houses are three, four, and five stories high, exclusive of the ground floor. The palace of the Hatzfeld family would make a distinguished figure in any of the capitals of Europe, and some of the other buildings are very respectable. Many of the Catholic churches are handsome, but they are crowded with altars, pictures, gold and paltry decorations. The Cathedral, which is a large, splendid edifice, contains a great number of monuments, few of which, as productions of art, are worthy of notice. Among the statues and public works in the streets and squares, there is little remarkable, excepting the monument erected by the family of Tauenziehn, to the memory of a deceased count of that name, who was governor of Breslau, and commanded during the siege in 1760. In the Chamber of War and Domains, we were shewn a wooden model of the Giant-mountains, by Kahl, who received for it 600 rix-dollars. The workmanship is far better, and executed with much more taste, than the original which his son shewed us at Steinseifen. By the latest enumeration, Breslau was found to contain about 60,000 inhabitants.

On the morning of the 4th, we left Breslau, and, passing through Domslau and Jordansmuhle, arrived at Nimpsch. The country, compared with that we had recently traversed, was by no means interesting, being mostly level, but tolerably well cultivated. We are again approaching more magnificent scenes, and the lofty mountains which separate Glatz from Silesia, already appear in the distance.

We left Nimpsch on the morning of the 6th. Both at that place and at Frankenstein, an insignificant town about nine miles distant from the former, I found large and stately mansions, both of which are in ruins, but they have a fine situation, and, notwithstanding the ravages of time, an imposing appearance. I went thro' that at Frankenstein, which commands a magnificent prospect of the mountains of Glatz, the town of Silberberg, and the fortress of the same name on the brow of a hill above it. This fortress, which is partly hewn out of the rock, and has a communication with the town by means of a covered way, is said to be extremely in-

* Garve expired a few weeks afterwards, on the 1st of December, 1798.

interesting. From its great elevation, the climate is uncommonly cold and severe.

As we approached the small town of Wartha, the mountains of Glatz presented themselves in all their grandeur. Beyond that place they are piled one upon the other, and continue increasing in magnitude and height, till at length, nine miles beyond Glatz, they terminate in vast perpendicular steeps, which seem to preclude any farther progress. The scenery around Wartha is romantic and picturesque. The Hermitage near the town is remarkably pretty, and is not, as in many places, a mere ornament, but is actually inhabited. The town itself is insignificant, but appears to derive considerable advantage from the pilgrimages that are made to it. In the church are suspended a vast quantity of votive offerings. The inhabitants of all this district are zealous Catholics, so that I imagined myself to be in Bohemia or Moravia rather than in the dominions of a Protestant sovereign.

Glatz is situated on a mountain, the upper part of which is occupied by the citadel, so that it stands considerably higher than the town itself. I walked through the streets in all directions, and found them mostly narrow, and, as may naturally be supposed from the site of the place, constantly going up and down hill. It contains some good houses, among which the edifice formerly belonging to the Jesuits is very extensive. It is now employed by government for various purposes, and some of the most respectable inhabitants in the town have taken a part of it for clubs, assemblies, and balls.

The citadel of Glatz appears to me to be one of the strongest places I ever saw, great additions and improvements having been made within these few years in the fortifications; but what particularly pleased me was the view of the adjacent country which one of the towers of the fortress commands. The district of Glatz is populous and well cultivated. The town contains about 8000 inhabitants including the garrison; and the population of the whole country is estimated at 75,000 persons.

The Censor. N°. II.

SIR,

IN a former number, one of your correspondents has characterized the Scots as a philosophic nation, and has complained that this character prevails to such a degree as to exclude all the lighter graces of wit and gaiety. I believe this idea very generally prevails. The English themselves, while they claim the superiority in erudition and wit, do not hesitate to allow that we think and reason more accurately than they.

Attached as I am to my native country, I should be extremely sorry to deprive it of a merit which is granted even by its depreciating neighbours; and yet, Sir, I must confess, that on pondering the subject, and viewing attentively all the particulars in the conduct of my fellow citizens, I have found some difficulty in discovering upon what this reputation is founded. By considering what might be expected to take place in a city of philosophers, we shall be better able to judge how far that title can be considered as appertaining to our Scottish metropolis.

Let us first consider what would take place with regard to politics, which certainly occupy their due share in the attention of the inhabitants of Edinburgh. I certainly do not say that, in a free country like ours, this subject ought to be viewed with indifference; but still, in a city such as I have supposed, we might expect to see it divested of that

that heat and acrimony which elsewhere attend it. We would have no noisy tumultuous meetings, no abusive language, no scrambling after places; but every man more anxious for the public good, than for the triumph of his own particular party. Measures would be judged of, rather than men: nor would a man consider himself bound to regulate the whole of his political faith and practice by the authority of a leader. In short, there would be some proportion between the intrinsic value of objects, and the eagerness with which they are canvassed.

To descend from politics to literature; it would, perhaps, be too much to expect that no controversy should ever arise. Still, we will surely in such a case meet with nothing but the most dignified and temperate language; the most anxious attention not to wound the feelings of individuals, or convert the public into a personal controversy. We may expect too to see the most scrupulous regard to truth; if errors in opinion be unavoidable, there will certainly be no ground on either side to insinuate a departure from matter of fact: nay even, if appearances should lead to such a suspicion, we will see an extreme reluctance even to hint at such an accusation.

From politics and science, if we pass on to the intercourse of social life, we may expect to find the same prudent and reasonable character prevailing. In this wise and philosophic city, those fashionable follies which swarm in other capitals, will doubtless find no admittance. Parties will be estimated according to the agreeable qualities of the persons assembled, and not according to the mere crowd and consequent inconvenience: day will not be turned into night, and night into day; midnight will not be the hour to dress for going out; nor will we find our fashionable parties continuing till day light, and breakfasting before they separate. The pursuit of idle shew will not lead to the sacrifice of all domestic comfort; nor will it be necessary for a family to retire for weeks before to the garret, or to another house, in order to render their own fit to be inundated by a deluge of strangers. All these follies, however they may prevail elsewhere, will doubtless be banished far from the precincts of this famed seat of learning and philosophy.

Lastly, that I may not be accused of overlooking the fair sex, (though on this point I would wish to touch with infinite delicacy;) dress and scandal will not, as is ill-naturedly alledged to be the case elsewhere, be the reigning topics of conversation: our fair ones will be found in the domestic circles much oftener than in public; instruments formed to assist imperfect vision will not be ostentatiously used by those whose organs are perfectly entire; nor, in compliance with fashion, will health be forfeited and even life endangered by an indiscreet display of their charms to their too happy admirers. In short, our Edinburgh ladies will be found as superior to others in every accomplishment as they are universally allowed to be in personal attractions.

From this brief enumeration, your readers may form some idea how far the character of this famous metropolis answers the idea which is usually entertained of it; and whether, if strangers were indulged with a nearer view, they might not feel their reverence a little abated. Would there be no danger, that though they could not fail to acknowledge the presence of a great portion of learning and genius, they might feel their opinion even of the value of these gifts somewhat lowered, if they should appear to be of little avail in guiding the conduct of their possessors. In short, Sir, I would beg them to consider whether this city be so perfectly

wise

wise and immaculate, that there can be no room for the exercise of those censorial functions which I have assumed, and whether there may not hereafter be room for enlarging a little farther on some of the points which at present I have just hinted at.

Account of Early SCOTTISH *metrical Romances.*

From Ellis's Specimens of Early English metrical Romances. 3 vols. 8vo. London 1805.

IT is certainly to the Norman Minstrels that we are indebted for the greater part of the romance histories now extant, which were afterwards avowedly translated by our English versifiers. But a very elegant and accurate writer has lately shown, that this, tho' generally, is not universally true; and that a small number of our earliest metrical tales were most probably first exhibited in an English dress, and then translated, or rather imitated, by French minstrels. As Mr Scott's opinions always deserve attention, it may be proper to lay before the reader a short outline of the reasoning by which they are established.

It will be remembered, that, during more than two centuries after the arrival of the Saxons, the whole western coast of this island, from the extremity of Cornwall to the river Clyde, continued to be occupied by the Britons, and that the conquest of Lancashire, about 670, first effectually severed the northern tribes of Cumbria and Strathclyde from all intercourse with those of modern Wales. This northern district, comprising the Roman provinces of Valentia and part of Maxima, had been more thickly occupied by the armies, and perhaps more civilized by the arts of Rome than any other part of Britain. It gave birth to Aneurin, Merlin, and Llywarch-Hen, the most antient and celebrated of the Welsh poets; it produced Bede and Adomnan, the earliest of the Saxon historians; and continued for ages to retain its literary superiority. Of its history very little is known,—except that being defended by the strong posts of Dunbarton and Stirling, and in part by the celebrated barrier against the Picts, still known by the name of the Catrail, or wardyke, the small kingdom of Strathclyde maintained its independence, during several centuries, against the Saxons of Northumbria, as well as against the separate efforts of the Scottish and Pictish sovereigns. But when these kingdoms became united in the person of Kenneth, about the year 843, it is probable that these Britons, though for a short time protected by Athelstan, became permanently tributary to Scotland; still, however, retaining their language and manners, and even their nominal sovereigns, the last of whom, Ewen the Bald, attended Malcolm II. in 1018 to the battle of Carrum, against the Northumbrians. The British kingdom, or principality of Cumberland, comprising the present shires of Cumberland, Westmoreland, and part of Lancashire, had been previously ceded to Scotland, as a sort of fief, about the middle of the 10th century; and in the beginning of the 12th the earldom of Northumberland, of nearly the same extent as the present county, came by marriage to David earl of Cumberland, youngest son of Malcolm III., who thus united to the territories of the Picts and Scots nearly all those which had been possessed by the Angles of Bernicia, and by the Britons of Cumbria and Strathclyde.

We must add, that many Norman barons, disgusted by the conduct of William the Conqueror, retired to the court of Malcolm, where they were liberally entertained;

ed; that his sons were twice (in 1094 and 1097) assisted by Anglo-Norman armies in their contest with the usurper, Donald Bane; and that at the battle of the Standard most of David's men at arms are expressly stated to have been Normans.—Scotland, therefore, in the eleventh and twelfth centuries, contained a still greater variety of inhabitants than England; but the several nations were placed, in the two countries, under very different circumstances.

In England, the possession of the soil had been wrested from the natives by the Saxons, after a very long and bloody struggle, maintained on both sides with inveterate animosity; and it is remarkable that, in consequence of the violent and intolerant character of Austin, the apostle of the Saxons, their conversion to Christianity had inflamed, instead of softening, the rancour of the rival nations. After the Norman conquest, the Saxons long ceased to have a political existence; being parcelled out in minute subdivisions, with few means of communicating with each other, and blindly subservient to their respective masters. In Scotland, on the contrary, the Scots and Picts, after being frequently connected by such alliances as are compatible with a savage state of society, and engaging as friends in a long succession of predatory wars against the Romans, the Britons, and the Saxons, were finally amalgamated, after a short contest for the sovereignty, by Kenneth, who had pretensions to the crown of both nations; after which their joint forces successively overpowered the hostile tribes of Britons and Saxons within their reach. Neither religious differences nor mortifying political distinctions* appear to have prevailed among the people thus connected by their obedience to a common sovereign. It is probable, indeed, that they long continued to use their distinct languages, and to retain their appropriate laws and customs; but that this was chiefly owing to their geographical boundaries, and to the paucity of their wants, which prevented a frequent intercourse. They were separated by their general barbarism, not by their reciprocal animosity. When, therefore, these impediments were in a great measure removed by Malcolm III., who transferred the seat of government from the Scottish to the Saxon part of his dominions, a language, in which the Saxon, more or less modified by an admixture of the British, and perhaps of the French, was predominant, could not fail of being formed; and it was likely to acquire a certain degree of perfection much sooner than the English of the south, which was gradually developed under far less auspicious circumstances.

This priority of the northern to the southern English dialect is proved by a passage of Robert de Brunne, which had been hitherto misunderstood, and which Mr Scott has happily elucidated by exhibiting, in the romance of Sir Tristram, composed by

* There is, in the curious old law book called "Regiam Majestatem," a law called "de Cro," (lib iv. c. 36.) regulating the *assythment* to be paid by a homicide, according to the rank of the person slain. Skene says that these laws are consuetudinary; that he has seen them written *Gallice* (in French?) and that they are entitled *Leges inter Brettos et Scotos*. They contain many Celtic or British terms, and so do various old charters respecting Cumberland and Dumfries-shire. This insertion of British customs in feudal investitures strongly argues a mixture of the people. With respect to religion, which the Picts received from the Scots or Irish, the utmost harmony seems to have prevailed within the northern frontier.

by Thomas of Erceldon, a specimen of the quaint stanza and elaborate and artificial style attributed by the historian to that poet and to his countryman Kendal. He has also shown, by a reference to antient charters, that the Scottish minstrels of this early period enjoyed all the privileges and distinctions possessed by the Norman trouveurs, whom they nearly rivalled in the arts of narration, and over whom they possessed one manifest advantage in their familiar acquaintance with the usual scenes of chivalry. Carlisle, as we learn from Froissart, was the Carduel of romance, the favourite seat of Arthur; and between that place and Penrythis his "round table," which, like his "seat" and his "oven," still records his memory. Bamborough Castle, as we learn from Knighton, was the "chastel orgueilleux," and Berwick the "chateau de la joyeuse garde," the favourite habitation of Sir Launcelot. Ettrick forest, the Sylva Caledonia, beloved by Merlin, whose remains are supposed to have been buried at Drummelziar, was included in the territories of Urien and Ywain. Galloway, according to Mr Whitaker, was the patrimony of the celebrated Gawain. At Stowe, in the vale of Gala (the Wedale, or vallis sanctus of Nennius,) a few miles above Melros, was the church of St Mary's, where Arthur, as the British historian assures us, deposited a piece of the true cross; and at Meigle in Angus, between Cupar and Forfar, tradition still points out the tomb of "Dame Ganore," the beautiful Guenever. The Scottish minstrels, therefore, thus surrounded by the memorials of romance, and having easy access to the traditionary tales of Strathclyde and Cumbria †, were likely to be considered as the most authentic depositaries of those narratives; and accordingly Thomas of Erceldoun is cited in this character by a French minstrel, of whose life of Sir Tristram two valuable MS. fragments are preserved in Mr Douce's very curious library. Another Thomas, or perhaps the same, is in like manner quoted, as the best authority for the narrative, in a French metrical history of "King Horn;" a romance of which the scenery and names are evidently Northumbrian; and the adventures of "Wade," twice noticed by Chaucer, must evidently be referred to the same country, because the castle of the hero stood near the Roman wall, which he is said to have surmounted. Besides these, the fragments of "Sir Gawain" and of "Sir Galaron," published by Mr Pinkerton, have all the marks of original composition, and are with great probability assigned by Mr Scott to the thirteenth century; a very early period certainly, but which is justified by the internal evidence of style,—an evidence perfectly admissible in this case, because the early eminence of the Scottish minstrels is proved by the authority of Robert de Brunne, and by that of Wyntown's Chronicle.

As a further confirmation of this opinion, it may be added, that while Erceldoun, Kendal, and Hutcheon, poets of the North, are celebrated by our early historians; while every antient ballad bears testimony to the excellence of the minstrels "from the North country;" and while our MSS. abound with metrical romances written in the northern dialect; we do not possess one, anterior to the time of

† The intercourse between the Cymric and Saxon tribes was no less likely to affect the music than the poetry of the latter; and Mr Scott has, with great appearance of probability, attributed to this circumstance the analogy between the Northumbrian and Welsh modes of singing, remarked by Giraldus Cumbrensis.

of Chaucer, which can with certainty * be ascribed to a poet of South Britain.

View of Manners and State of Society at the CAPE *of* GOOD HOPE.

THE capital of the Cape is a neat, regular, and well-built town, and occupies a greater extent of ground than is generally imagined;—it contains some handsome buildings, but, from the prevalence of violent winds, they are generally built low. They make use of clay as mortar, and give a coating of plaster to the outside when finished;—this is decorated according to the taste and fancy of the builder; the doors and windows generally painted green, a favourite colour with the Dutch.

A stone terrace, extending the whole length of the house, and elevated a few feet above the level of the street, is the grand promenade of the family; this is called the Stoop, and towards evening is commonly thronged with visitors. Mynheer seats himself at one end of it, enjoying the luxury of his tobacco, and with apparent unconcern eyes the passing throng.

There are two churches within the town, and the religion of the inhabitants is that of the reformed church, the Calvinists being the most numerous. In the external duties of religion they are sufficiently zealous, and regular attendants of church on Sundays; but in the after part of the day, when the exercises of devotion are finished, it is no unusual thing among the young ladies to form parties of pleasure, and spend the evening in the ball-room.

Though now the middle of winter, or, as it may be termed with greater propriety, the wet season, yet, when the sky is clear, the influence of the meridian sun is still powerful; but suddenly it becomes remarkably cold, and a person is at a loss how to clothe himself, for the transitions from heat to cold, and from cold to heat, can hardly be equalled in any other climate. Sore throats, and similar complaints, are the natural consequences of these sudden changes.

The Government Garden, situated at the higher part of the valley, which forms an amphitheatre, is a fashionable resort in the cool of the evening; and when the scorching rays of a summer's sun render every other place about town unpleasant and oppressive, here one may enjoy a delightful coolness under the shade of the spreading oaks. It is about a quarter of an hour's walk from the top to the bottom. It has been lately inclosed with a brick wall.—In the immediate neighbourhod there are some charming villas, although, from the aridity of the soil, and the consequent want of water, these cultivated spots do not extend to any considerable distance from the town.

Industry has been always held up to us as a prominent feature in the character of a Dutchman; but I am afraid this characteristic of the mother-country is not so well supported in Africa.

At a general survey, you will be inclined to pronounce the inhabitants indolent

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* It is true that the Life of Alexander, the most spirited perhaps of our early romances, has been ascribed to Adam Davie, Marshall of Stratford le bow, and author of some metrical visions and other poems in the reign of Edward II., and that Mr Ritson, and myself have adopted this supposition on the authorities of Bishop Tanner and Mr Warton. But, having carefully perused every line of the romance, I am now convinced that they were mistaken. No author's name is mentioned in it; and its style which nearly resembles that of Merlin, has no sort of analogy with that of Adam Davie's visions, as quoted by Mr Warton.

indolent and inactive; or, at least, where exertions are discovered, they are comparatively trifling, and confined to narrow bounds.

English manners begin more and more to prevail; but it seems the peculiar province of the fair sex to copy after the fashions of our country. The Cape ladies possess an elegance in their manners, and a degree of symmetry in their persons, conjoined to an agreeable expression of countenance, which cannot fail to attract our regard. No doubt that portion of levity and familiarity which has been ascribed to them, in a great measure arises from their intercourse with strangers, for, owing to the same intercourse, from the first establishment of the colony to the present time, their manners have assumed that mixed character which holds a kind of equipoise between Dutch composure and French frivolity.

The plant that quickly arrives at maturity, is found in the same proportion to hasten to decay; this reasoning is found applicable to the Cape ladies. That beauty which only blows and blossoms, early dies and fades away. When this climacteric period approaches, they begin to assume that roundness of figure which evinces their original stamp.

I shall now attempt to present you with a more enlarged picture of the ladies of the colony. You are already made acquainted, that in personal charms, and mere exterior accomplishments, they are allowed to excel; but we must now speak of that better part of them—the mind, natural dispositions, mode of education, and principal amusements.

The warmth and influence of a genial climate contribute not a little to their gaiety and good-humour, which, in a higher latitude, amidst the society of the more scrupulous, and morose female characters, would immediately be set down as the high road to ruin. Thus, they are naturally led to be more familiar in their intercourse with strangers; but we should not on this account give them less credit for correctness and propriety of conduct. What, indeed, must have a wonderful influence on their sentiments and manners, is, their being constantly attended by, and in habits of intimacy with the female slaves (as I observed in a former letter) who openly bestow favours on such as give themselves the trouble of seeking them. They will always find a convenient hour or season to give a wrong bias to their young mistresses' mind, at a period of life when impressions of that nature, conjoined with physical causes, are not unaccompanied with danger. Custom prescribes to them no regular plan of education. Brilliant and fashionable accomplishments are their only aim, while the more homely lessons of domestic economy, are mere secondary considerations. Accustomed to be surrounded with female slaves from their infancy, they no sooner begin to move than they find they are not allowed to assist themselves, but have attendants at their call, over whom they are soon taught, by the powerful examples they see around them, of exercising the imperious tones of command; this, by degrees, is confirmed by habit, and carried with them into active life, when they become mothers in their turn.

The young women are peculiarly fond of dancing, and display both elegance and grace, when assembled on such occasions. Previous to the arrival of the English among them, parties of this kind were more frequent; indeed, they seem to think that we have too little penchant for these amusements, and that we substitute the more noisy diversion of bets, horse-racing, &c. in its stead—perhaps there is some truth in the remark.

We have endeavoured to introduce among them a taste for theatrical amuse-

amusements. An elegant theatre has been built at a great expence, and such gentlemen of the garrison as are theatrically inclined, come forward to tread the Cape boards. Our neighbours, however, in New South Wales, are beforehand with us in theatricals; but they have always at their command, a company renowned for their versatile abilities, and adequate to all the shifting scenes of mimic life.

Should the Dutch be again put in possession of the Cape, they will probably convert the *Cape Drury* into *Pakhuises* for commercial purposes. We will pass over the little calumnies that are industriously spread abroad respecting the married ladies of the Cape. Jealousy is not the character of a Cape Dutchman.—Some are, perhaps, as regardless of the honour of their family as the smoke they whiff around from their tobacco-pipes; indeed, a pupil of Godwin's school could not display, on these occasions, a more philosophic coolness and indifference.

A knowledge of the English language is not among the least acquirements of the fair sex at the Cape.—Several of them speak it with fluency and correctness of pronunciation. The residence of the English among them has not much inclined them to a fondness for reading; this is, perhaps, the more fortunate for them. Had they the same partiality for the romantic tales that annually issue from our press, as the gay fashionables of this country, then might we justly apprehend, from the mode of their education, consequences far more subversive of purity of manners and social happiness.

A society of Dutch gentlemen at the Cape have lately set on foot a circulating library. It consists of a tolerable selection from the English, French, German, and Dutch writers. A great portion of that time which is wasted in indolence, and amid the fumes of tobacco, may henceforward be more profitably employed in improving the mind and acquiring a more perfect knowledge of men and manners.

The pleasantness of the weather invited me abroad, and I rambled insensibly till I at last found myself in the middle of a crowd of Malay slaves, who, having formed a circle, were enjoying the pleasures of a cock-fight, and, after the idle part of our countrymen, had bets depending on the match. The keen expression of their countenances, and the warm interest of the spectators, excited my curiosity. I mingled with the crowd, and could be at no loss to infer, from the nature of their amusement, the natural disposition of this class of slaves. The conflict was obstinate, and the strength and spirit of the poor animals were totally exhausted. They are commonly armed with artificial spurs, and are seldom separated till one of them receives the mortal blow. The crowd separated into several lesser circles, and a new scene of gambling commenced. The dice-box was forthwith produced, and the young, middle-aged, and old, pressed close upon each other, and staked their several sums. It was no unamusing sight to observe the various change of features, as their good or bad fortune prevailed. While the eyes of the one glistened with the gains that lay before him, the other looked sullen and dissatisfied from the stakes that he had lost. The noise and warmth of my brown-complexioned gamblers increasing apace, I was glad to make my escape, forcibly impressed with a conviction of the series of ills that a spirit of gambling must inevitably entail, not only on the gamester, but its destructive consequences to society at large.

Among this class of slaves at the Cape a wild gambling spirit is universally predominant, and is carried

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to such excess, that not only do they cheerfully risk every farthing they possess, but the very cloaths upon their backs; nay, I have been told there have been instances of staking their very children, a fact so unnatural as hardly to be credited.—The officers of police often disturb them in the keenness of their play; and, when assembled for this purpose, they have their out-posts to watch their approach, that they may betake themselves in time to their heels.

A number of Malay families, who have obtained their freedom, reside in Cape Town. From fishing, and a low species of traffic, they gain their livelihood, and can successfully exert a spirit of cunning and industry. On my way home, I met with a Malay priest, on whose face the wrinkles of age had long taken possession. He was employed in superintending a few of his tribe, who were busily engaged in carrying gravel in a basket, which they threw down upon the road, and thus helped to keep it in repair; I understood that such employment is enjoined them by way of penance for their sins. They seem to be the only class of slaves that interest themselves in the performance of religious duties. To their priests they pay great reverence and respect, are implicitly obedient to his commands, and from their contributions he subsists. While I remained with the good old father, I had an opportunity of seeing he was equally skilful in the art of curing the diseases of the body, as well as the soul. A young woman, neatly dressed, with her long hair neatly plaited up behind, presented herself before him, and giving him to understand that she was indisposed, asked his advice. With the greatest composure he took a small box from his sack, and striking into its contents a few sparks from the steel, it immediately caught fire, and emitted a somewhat fragrant vapour, with which he bedewed the forehead and temples of the fair supplicant. It had an instantaneous effect, for she took her leave with a look of gratitude and apparent relief from her pain.

I could not help experiencing sensations of a pleasing nature, in viewing the neat manner in which the Malays dress up the graves of their deceased friends, which are surrounded with stone, and covered over with pebbles. There is, indeed, a mournful, melancholy pleasure, in decorating the repository of the dead. An egg was placed at the head of one of the tomb stones, perhaps as an emblem of the purity of the soul. The burial of a Malay is conducted with respect and decorum. The body is ceremoniously carried to the grave, covered with a white shroud, and fancifully strewed with flowers. All the attendants are dressed in their best attire. The Mosambique and Madagascar slaves conduct these matters with indifference, and an entire neglect of all decency and form: they throw the corpse on a bier, and very unconcernedly commit it to the grave.

Abstract of New Acts of Parliament 1805.

AN Act for granting to his Majesty several additional duties of Excise.—These are as follow:

Auctions of lands, tenements, shares, annuities, &c. - -	L.0 0 1d. per L.

Auc-

Auction of furniture and other moveables,	L.0	0	2	per L.
Bricks, not exceeding 10 inches long, 3 thick, and 5 wide,	0	0	10	per Mil.
Tiles, plain,	0	0	10	per ditto
Coffee,	0	0	6	per lib.
Cyder and Perry	0	10	0	per Hhd.
Glass.—Plate and flint glass, enamel, &c.	0	16	4	per Cwt.
Broad glass,	0	4	1	per ditto.
Crown glass,	0	12	3	per ditto.
All glass imported, except flasks containing wine or oil, green glass bottles, or Irish glass,	1	1	0	per ditto.
Vinegar,	0	5	0	per ditto.
Wire, gilt,	0	0	10	per oz. Troy.
—— silver,	0	0	7	per ditto.

There is a drawback of the whole duty on bricks and tiles, cyder and perry, glass and wire.

An Act for allowing a certain proportion of the Militia in Great Britain, voluntarily to enlist into his Majesty's regular forces and Royal Marines.

An Act for granting to foreign ships put under his Majesty's protection the privileges of prize ships under certain regulations and restrictions; and for allowing aliens, in foreign colonies surrendered to his Majesty, to exercise the occupations of merchants or factors during the present war, and until six months after the ratification of a definitive treaty of peace.

An Act to permit the importation of goods and commodities from countries in America belonging to any foreign European sovereign or state, in neutral ships, during the present war, and until six months after the ratification of a definitive treaty of peace.—The only restriction upon the issuing of these licences is, that the state in question should be in amity with his Majesty, and that the goods should be the produce of the country whence they are imported. Sugar and coffee, however, must not be consumed in Great Britain, but only warehoused for exportation.

An Act for increasing the rates of subsistence to be paid to innkeepers, and others, on quartering soldiers. —By this act the allowance for diet and small beer is raised to 1s. 4d. per diem, and where the inn-keepers or others decline giving this maintenance, they are allowed ½d. per diem for other little articles, which were formerly to be given gratis. This option, however, is not given in the case of soldiers on their march, and for two days after, nor in that of recruiting parties. In these cases, the innkeepers, &c. are liable to be fined if they refuse giving the articles *in kind*.

An Act for repealing so much of an act made in the thirty fourth year of his present Majesty as exempts slate, the value whereof shall not exceed twenty shillings per ton, brought coastwise within Great Britain, from the duty thereby granted.

An Act for making perpetual certain additional duties of Excise on wine imported into Great Britain, granted by two acts passed in the forty-third and forty-fourth years of his present Majesty.—These duties which

which originally were to continue only during the war, are hereby rendered permanent.

Account of the Life and Character of DR MACKNIGHT.

From the 2d edition (in 7 vols. 8vo.) of his Translation, &c. of the Epistles.

DR JAMES MACKNIGHT was born on the 17th of September 1721. His father, Mr William Macknight, Minister at Irvine, was a native of Ireland, where his ancestors, descended from the family of M'Naughtane in the Highlands of Scotland, had resided for more than a century, and where some of his relations still remain. Mr William Macknight early displayed very popular talents as a preacher; and having, it is said, accidentally officiated in the church of Irvine, sometime after the death of the former incumbent, he gave so much satisfaction to the hearers, that he was soon appointed to supply the vacant charge. In this situation he continued during life, universally esteemed for genuine piety, purity of morals, and integrity of character. He married Elizabeth Gemmil, daughter of Mr Gemmil of Dalraith; a small property in the neighbourhood of Kilmarnock, which had been in possession of the same family for several centuries, and which Dr Macknight afterwards inherited in right of his mother.

By this marriage, Mr William Macknight had two daughters and four sons; of whom the youngest, and only one now alive, is Thomas Macknight, Esq. of Ratho; a gentleman, who in early life signalized himself, during the American war, by the most eminent services as a Loyalist; and who, since his return to his native country, has long been distinguished by unusual activity in the prosecution of agricultural improvements, on the most liberal and extensive scale.

Mr James Macknight, the subject of this narrative, received the rudiments of education at the school of Irvine; and about the age of fourteen, was sent to the university of Glasgow, where he studied with great approbation from his teachers, on account of his diligence and proficiency. The notes he then took from the Lectures on Logic and Moral Philosophy, before he was sixteen, still remain among his papers, and afford remarkable indications of the same acuteness, and soundness of judgment, which afterwards characterized his Theological Writings.

Having completed the usual course of academical discipline at Glasgow, Mr Macknight went to Leyden, in order to prosecute the study of Theology, to which he had shewn an early attachment. While he staid in Holland, he had an opportunity of procuring many valuable books written by foreign Divines, which afterwards assisted his own labours in explaining Scripture. After his return to Scotland, having received from the Presbytery of Irvine a licence to preach the gospel, he was chosen to officiate at the Gorbals, near Glasgow; a situation which at that time could be held by a licentiate of the Church, before being ordained to the pastoral function. On this occasion, one of the candidates was Mr Robert Henry, afterwards the well-known Historian of Great Britain. It is somewhat remarkable, that the same gentlemen who thus happened to be placed in competition with each other at the commencement of life, were at last, after an interval of many years, associated as colleagues in the charge of the Old Parish Church of Edinburgh; a connection which subsisted till the death of Dr Henry, in the most cordial habits of friendship and intimacy.

From the Gorbals, Mr Macknight went to Kilwinning, in consequence of an invitation from Mr Fergusson, then Minister of that place; and ac-

ted for some time as his assistant in the charge of the parish. Here he conducted himself with such propriety, that his character began to be established: and on the death of Mr Fisher at Maybole, he obtained the vacant living there, with the concurring wish of the heritors and people. Of this charge, accordingly, he was ordained as minister, on the 10th of May 1753. At Maybole, Mr Macknight continued sixteen years; and discharged the duties of the pastoral office with such assiduity and kindness, that when he left it, he carried with him the affections and regret of all his flock. It may be mentioned, as a pleasing evidence of attachment, that when he proposed accepting a presentation to the living of Jedburgh, many respectable inhabitants of the parish of Maybole joined together in earnestly soliciting him to remain as their pastor; and in order to obtain his compliance with this request, they offered not only to augment the value of his income, but to provide him an assistant, should the state of his health render it necessary. This generous proposal, however, he judged it proper, from prudential considerations, to decline.

It was at Maybole that, amidst his professional occupations in a populous charge, Dr Macknight composed the first and second of his works. Of the former, indeed, or the Harmony of the Gospels, it appears from his papers, that the plan had been conceived by him so early at the third or fourth year of his attendance at the university; and from that time he began to collect materials for the publication. The first edition of this book was published in 1756. Although the plan of it differed considerably from that of former harmonies, in supposing that the Evangelists have not neglected the order of time in the narration of events, the reception it met with from the most competent judges was so favourable, that the author was encouraged to undertake a second edition, with considerable improvements and additions. This edition appeared in 1763. In the same year, was also published by Dr Macknight, another performance of great merit, entitled, The Truth of the Gospel History; which had been the fruit of the Author's studies during the interval between the first and second editions of his Harmony. Its object is, to illustrate and confirm, both by argument and by appeal to the testimony of ancient authors, what are commonly arranged under the three great titles of the Internal, the Collateral, and the Direct Evidences of the Gospel History.

By these publications, Dr Macknight soon obtained a high reputation for theological learning. The University of Edinburgh conferred on him (among the first who obtained that distinction in Scotland) the degree of Doctor of Divinity; and he was chosen moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland in 1769. During the course of the same year, he was translated to the parochial charge of Jedburgh; in which he remained about three years, and where he received from his people the most flattering tokens of respect and kindness. In 1772, he was elected one of the ministers of Edinburgh; a preferment for which he was chiefly indebted to the long continued and steady friendship of the very respectable and highly-esteemed family of Kilkerran. His first charge in Edinburgh was the parish of Lady Yester's; from which he was translated, in 1778, to the Old Church, where he continued during the remainder of his life.

The lives of the learned commonly offer little else to our curiosity, than the simple record of their studies and writings. This observation, often made, is peculiarly applicable in the present instance. After he took up his

his residence in Edinburgh, there were few occurrences in the life of Dr Macknight, which can be made the subject of narration. Besides performing the ordinary duties of the pastoral function, a minister of Edinburgh, in virtue of his office, is much occupied with public meetings on business of various kinds, especially the management of the different charitable foundations, which have long been the boast of the capital of Scotland. On these, accordingly, Dr Macknight, though he entertained some doubts respecting the good effects of such institutions, bestowed much of his attention; and his judicious counsels of management, were undoubtedly productive, at that time, of considerable benefit, in maintaining the strictness of their discipline, as well as the purity of their administration. Among other objects of such official care, is the fund established by Act of Parliament for a provision to the widows and children of ministers in the Church of Scotland. As one of the trustees appointed by the Act, he had long taken a leading part in conducting the business of this charity; and when the growing prosperity of the fund had paved the way for an increase of its capital, Dr Macknight was nominated by the trustees, along with the celebrated Dr Webster, (to whose benevolent exertions this valuable institution was much indebted for its establishment) as a Commissioner to solicit a renewal of the Act of Parliament. This accordingly was obtained in 1779; fixing the capital at 100,000*l.* and making other alterations for the benefit of the fund. After the death of Dr Webster, Dr Macknight was appointed joint collector with Sir H. Moncrieff Wellwood, Bart.; a colleague whose great ability and talents for business peculiarly qualified him, as experience has since shewn, for the important office which he still holds, with the highest credit to himself and advantage to the fund.

The line of conduct which Dr Macknight pursued, with regard to the points of ecclesiastical policy that have long divided the members of the Church of Scotland, was different from what might have been presumed, in consequence of the first impressions on these topics, which, it is probable, he had received from his father. But after mature deliberation, with that manliness and self-decision which marked his character, he adopted the principles that were to regulate his future conduct in the church courts; and, throughout life, he acted steadily on that system of ecclesiastical policy, which, for many years past, has guided the decisions of the General Assembly. At the same time, he firmly resisted whatever appeared to him as any infringement on the constitutional law or practice of the Church; and accordingly, when some of his friends seemed to wish for the abolition of calls, as an unnecessary form in the settlement of ministers, he moved and carried a resolution of the Assembly 1782, (relative to certain overtures on the subject, then under the discussion of the house,) "declaring, that the moderation of a call, in settling ministers, is agreeable to the immemorial and constitutional practice of this church, and that it ought to be continued:" A resolution which was afterwards converted into a declaratory act, and printed as such in the proceedings of the Assembly for that year.

Of Dr Macknight it may in general on this head be recorded, that no member of the Church to which he belonged, ever, perhaps, entertained more just or profound views respecting the great fundamental principles of her constitution and laws, or concerning the nature and distinctive powers of her several judicatories; and

and that in relation to the business which usually occupies the General Assembly, either in its judicative or in its legislative capacity, he always formed a clear, sound, and decisive judgment. On this account he was often consulted by the leading members of that court. If he had made the business of the Church a principal object of his attention, it is probable that he would have attained a still more distinguished place in the number of those whose counsels direct the ecclesiastical affairs of Scotland. It happened likewise, that, on several important occasions, his professional advice and assistance were of essential service to the magistrates of Edinburgh, with regard to the ecclesiastical arrangements of the city.

But what chiefly engaged his mind, and occupied his time, after he became a minister of Edinburgh, was the execution of his last and greatest work on the apostolic epistles; which was published in 1795, in four volumes quarto. Respecting this work it is, perhaps, not unworthy of being told, that it was the result of the unremitting labour of almost thirty years; that notwithstanding his numerous professional avocations, the author, while composing it, was seldom less than eleven hours every day employed in study; and that before it came to the press, the whole manuscript had been written no less than five times with his own hand.—At the time of publishing "The New Translation of the Apostolical Epistles, with a Commentary and Notes," Dr Macknight was highly indebted to the patronage of the Duke of Grafton; and after the work made its appearance, he received the most honourable testimonies of approbation from many of the Bishops and respectable dignitaries of the Church of England, as well as from the ablest divines of all descriptions.

After the publication of this work, Dr Macknight considered himself as having accomplished the greatest object of his life; and wishing to enjoy, at the end of his days, some relief from the labour of study, he resisted the repeated solicitations of his friends, who earnestly urged him to undertake the illustration of the book of the Acts, on the same plan which he had so successfully followed in the explaining the other parts of the New Testament. But soon after this period, from the want of their usual exercise, a sensible decline of his faculties, particularly a failure of his memory, was observed by his family. This fact is a striking instance of the analogy between the powers of the body and those of the mind, both of which suffer by inaction: and it furnishes a useful caution to those who have been long habituated to any regular exertion of mind, against at once desisting entirely from its usual efforts; since the effect, in the course of nature, is not only to create languor, but to hasten the progress of debility and failure.

As yet, however, Dr Macknight's bodily vigour seemed to be but little impaired. In early life he was afflicted with frequent headachs. But after he had reached the age of thirty, they seldom returned; and he afforded a singular instance of a sedentary life long continued, with hardly any of those complaints which it usually induces. This uninterrupted enjoyment of health he owed, under Providence, to a naturally robust make, and a constitution of body uncommonly sound and vigorous; along with regular habits of temperance, and of taking exercise, which he did by walking nearly three hours every day.

Having finished the task he had prescribed to himself as an author, he mingled frequently in the society of his friends, from which, at intervals, he had always received much enjoyment; and long retained the same cheerfulness of temper, for which, at the

the hours of relaxation from severe study, he had been remarkable, when in the company of those whom he esteemed. Even after the symptoms of his decline were become visible, his natural sagacity and strength of judgment, as well as his extensive and familiar knowledge of the scriptures, were still to be discerned in his conversation and public appearances. And so habitual was his anxiety to discharge his duty, that he insisted on officiating for a considerable time after his friends had wished him to withdraw from public labour. It was not, indeed, without much intreaty, that he at last consented to accept the services of an assistant.

At this period of his life, it was peculiarly fortunate for him, that in Dr Greive, who became his colleague after the death of Dr Henry, he found a companion of the most amiable manners, and a friend of distinguished worth and respectability, from whom he experienced every office of attention and kindness. When he was at length no longer able to prosecute his favourite studies, the judicious opinions, and extensive information of his very accomplished and learned colleague, frequently afforded him in conversation a source of interesting entertainment. These proofs of respect and attachment have laid his family under perpetual obligations: and gratitude forbids, that any account of him should be given to the world, without an acknowledgement of the friendly assiduities which cheered and supported his declining years.

The disease which terminated his life, was the Peripneumonia Notha; occasioned by an incautious exposure to the severity of the weather, about the end of December 1799. This distemper, in its progress and issue, resisted the ablest and most assiduous efforts of medical skill. During his illness, his mind was composed, tranquil, and resigned: he never complained; and on the morning of the 13th January 1800, he expired without a struggle. As in the course of the preceding night he slept but little, the time was employed in hearing passages from the Psalms and Evangelists, which by his own desire were read to him by one of his family.—Thus, having spent his life in illustrating scripture, and exerted the last efforts of his attention in listening with delight to its precious words of peace to the righteous, he may be truly said to have slept in Jesus.

(To be concluded in our next.)

Scottish Review.

A Tour through some of the islands of Orkney and Shetland, with a view chiefly to objects of natural history, but including also occasional remarks on the state of the inhabitants, their husbandry, and fisheries. By Patrick Neill, A. M. Secretary to the Natural History Society of Edinburgh. With an appendix, containing observations, political and economical, on the Shetland Islands; a sketch of their mineralogy, &c. &c. 8vo. 5s — Constable and Co. Edinburgh; Murray, London.

THE greater part of this publication has already appeared in successive numbers of our Magazine.—By our readers in general, it was, we believe, perused with great satisfaction. It related to a part of this country which had not before been sufficiently attended to: it was written in a plain, perspicuous, and agreeable style; and the ample details in botany and zoology formed a valuable addition to the natural history of the British isles. But perhaps the most important part of all, is that relating to the condition of the inhabitants, though it has unfortunately given rise to a most embittered

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controversy, from which we ourselves have not altogether escaped. Not that we are conscious of partiality to either side; but there was a necessity for shutting our pages against the continuance of a discussion which had become altogether of a personal nature, and whose magnitude was increasing in a geometrical progression, while its value diminished in the same ratio. We have the satisfaction, however, to think, that the paper of Thule, inserted in our Nos. for December 1805 and January 1806, and which, with all its intemperance, does not want intelligence and information, contains a complete statement of facts respecting the subjects on which Mr Neill had animadverted. And it is remarkable, that, notwithstanding the deadly hostility which it breathes against the author of the Tour, it agrees with him in all the material facts. It equally admits the obligation imposed on the tenants to fish; the obligation to deliver the fruits of their fishery to the landlord, at a price considerably below its value; and the imposition of a fine on every man who goes to the Greenland fishery. These things certainly do not quite accord with the idea which we form of the privileges of a British subject. It would, doubtless, be unfair, however, to suppose that the Zetland proprietors are of a different species from the rest of mankind, or that their hearts are shut against every sentiment of common humanity. They may not, perhaps, altogether partake the benefits of southern civilization; but Sir Alex. Seton informs us, (Appendix, p. 177.) that many of them are patriotic, well-informed men; and both from his account and that of Mr Neill, it appears that their hospitality is fully equal to that of any of their fellow-subjects. Very probably this system, at the time of its establishment, might be the most eligible for Shetland as it then stood; poor, and without any means of extending its industry and wealth. But now, when its situation is altered, when the rest of Scotland is so much advanced, and the means of communication with Shetland so much facilitated, the greatest benefits would doubtless flow from the adoption of a more improved system; and it may deserve consideration whether government may not take some steps in order to forward its progress. At the same time, when we consider that the degraded state of the peasantry seems to arise, not from any legal authority exercised over them, but solely from their extreme poverty, we suspect that nothing can be hoped for, unless from the proprietors' becoming sensible that their own interest, and the welfare of their tenants, would be alike promoted, by giving them longer leases, and by allowing them to dispose of the fruits of their industry to the best advantage.

Upon the whole, we consider it as highly meritorious in Mr Neill to call the attention of his countrymen to this interesting subject, without regarding the unmerited obloquy to which it has exposed him; and we sincerely hope that what he has done may be attended with good effects to this unfortunate part of the British population.

Besides what appeared in this publication, Mr Neill has added an Appendix, containing some very valuable matters. There is, in particular, a letter from Sir Alexander Seton, containing some important economical remarks. Sir Alexander agrees entirely with Mr Neill as to the condition of the lower orders. He says:

> In traversing the dreary wilds of these islands, where neither tree, bush, nor shrub is to be seen, and where the heath itself is stunted, seldom exceeding three or four inches in height, one's feelings are naturally awaked to the situation of the poor inhabitants, who seem to be the

the most primitive unmixed people of the British Isles, having little intercourse with foreigners, in which class they even consider the *Scots*: their manners are little corrupted, but they are depressed by extreme poverty: they are certainly in a greater degree in want of the conveniences of life, and often of its necessaries, than any of their fellow subjects of Britain. They are very civil and even polite; and from that inquisitive disposition they seem all possessed of, one is led to believe that they wish to be better informed, and that much might be made of them. Their country is indeed poor, but it must be a wretched one surely which will admit of no melioration. Almost all the gentry have been educated in Scotland; their manners are similar to those in the north of Scotland, and in hospitality they are not behind any of their fellow-subjects. P. 175.

Again,

I view this subject with pleasure, because it yields a hope that these islands, instead of being obliged to their neighbours for subsistence, may, in a course of years, be enabled, without aid, to support a greater amount of population than at present they possess. But, alas! this cannot be expected on the present system, nor from the present tenantry. They are extremely poor, have no stock, and nothing to risk in speculation; besides, they have no time, being employed in the summer months at a distance from home in the ling fishery, at the very season when works of the field should be attended to, and which are thereby transferred to the women, children, and the infirm, who proceed as they have done for ages, in the faulty routine left them by their Norse ancestors. It is from the efforts of the proprietors any change must be expected, many of whom are patriotic, well informed men: would they lead the way to an improved system of economy, they would naturally be followed at a distance by their inferiors, as example operates with more force than many volumes of instructions, especially when they see their interest concerned. P. 177.

Sir Alexander recommends also the complete separation of the professions of fisher and husbandman; he complains much of the want of roads, the want of timber, the rudeness of all implements of husbandry; in short, the low condition of all the arts. The whole letter breathes a candid and friendly disposition towards the subjects of his animadversion. He acknowledges the hospitality he had met with in his excursion through that country, and expresses an earnest hope that what he now writes may be of some benefit to the inhabitants of Shetland.

Mr Neill has given also a supplement to the botanical part of Dr Barry's Orkney, a task for which he was extremely well qualified. Dr Barry had enumerated 312 species of plants, from which Mr N. deducts 6 (as spurious) and adds 156; so that the Flora of Orkney at present includes 462 species; and our author has no doubt that a more thorough examination might discover a hundred more. He has given also a list of birds found in the Shetland Islands, under their popular, English, and Linnean names.

There is a very interesting mineralogical survey of Shetland by Dr Traile. Besides the scientific description, Dr T. gives a view of the wild and picturesque scenery of these remote coasts.

The notes contain also a number of additional particulars respecting the state of those islands. From them we, in our last number, extracted an account of the whales stranded on the coast. A still more important object is the herring fishery, from which the Dutch formerly derived such immense wealth. We shall extract Mr Neill's account of it.

It is scarcely possible to form an idea of the immensity of the grand northern shoal of herrings which approaches the Shetland Islands every month of June. "The flocks of sea birds, for their number," it has been observed, "baffle the power of figures:"

——Where the Northern Ocean in vast whirls
Boils round the naked melancholy isles
Of farthest Thule;—

Who

Who can recount what transmigrations there
Are annual made? what nations come and go?
And how the living clouds on clouds arise?
Infinite wings! till all the plume-dark air
And rude resounding shore, are one wild cry *.

" But the swarms of fishes, as if engendered in the clouds, and showered down like the rain, are multiplied in an incomprehensible degree. Of all the various tribes of fishes, the Herring is the most numerous. Closely embodied in resplendent columns of many miles in length and breadth, and in depth from the surface to the bottom of the sea, the shoals of this tribe peacefully glide along, and, glittering like a huge reflected rainbow, or aurora borealis, attract the eyes of all their attendant foes †."

Let it not be thought that this swelling description exaggerates the amount of the shoals: let it be coolly considered, that for more than a century the Dutch annually loaded above a thousand decked vessels out of this grand northern shoal, and yet that this immense capture never in any year sensibly diminished the number of herrings around Shetland, which, after these foreigners were glutted, regularly continued to press forward toward the islands in vast bodies, frequently crowding into every creek and bay!

The Dutch, it is well known, accounted this fishery their " gold mine." It seems generally agreed among authors, that it yielded them, for a long course of years, L. 3,000,000 Sterling yearly. Dr Campbell, after premising that the value of the Dutch fishery has often been exaggerated, and that he will therefore give a " modest computation," proceeds thus: " It would however be no difficult thing to prove, to the satisfaction of the candid as well as critical inquirer, that, while it continued to flourish in their hand, they drew from their fishery out of the ocean washing the coast of Shetland, to the amount of two hundred million sterling ‡." From 1500 to 2000 sloops were employed in fishing: this gave occasion to the freighting of 6000 more and thus the herring fishery gave employment and subsistence to above a hundred thousand persons *. P. 215.

Some observations are added, on the natural history of the herring.

From the account we have given, it will appear that this work forms nearly an indispensable supplement to the larger work of Dr Barry; and to many, who from scarcity of money or time are led to think that a great book is a great evil, it may be resorted to as containing, in much smaller compass, the topography and natural history of these islands.

New Works published in EDINBURGH.

THE Mountain Bard; consisting of Ballads and Songs, founded on Facts and Legendary Tales. By James Hogg, the Ettrick Shepherd. 8vo. 5s. fine 10s. 6d.

Poetical Translations, vol. III. containing Francis's Horace, Garth's Ovid, and Lewis's Statius. By Robert Anderson, D.D. Royal 8vo. 1l. 1s.

Dissertations on the Existence, Attributes, Providence, and Moral Government of God; and on the Duty, Character, Security, and final Happiness of his righteous subjects. By the Rev. David Savile, 8vo. 7s. 6d.

SCOTTISH *Literary Intelligence.*

AMONG the publications of this month, our readers will perceive Mr Hogg's Mountain Bard, consisting chiefly of a collection of those productions, by the perusal of which, in this Magazine, they have been so much gratified. Considerable corrections however have been made, and notes added to them; also a Life of the

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* Thomson. † Berwick, Introd.
‡ Political Survey, vol. i. p. 696.

* Ibid.

the author prefixed, written by himself. Genius, struggling under difficulty and depression, has ever been felt as an interesting object. Mr Hogg was born in the condition of a shepherd; he had no advantages of education beyond others in the same station; he had to struggle with no common share of those misfortunes which are usually the lot of a character so ill fitted to make its way in the world as that of a poet; yet, with all these disadvantages, he has composed poems which, in energy and tenderness, rival those produced under the happiest circumstances. It would certainly be dishonourable to Scotland were such a genius consigned to neglect. We, who have in some degree been the channel by which he has been introduced to public notice, do certainly view this publication with peculiar interest, and sincerely hope that its success may be equal to its merits. Of these we shall take an early opportunity of entering into a more particular estimate.

The life of the late Dr Blair, by Dr John Hill will speedily make its appearance. Dr Hill had for more than twenty years enjoyed the intimate friendship of Dr Blair, and was selected by that great man as the person best qualified for writing his life. At the time of his death, which recently happened, he had, we understand, completely prepared the manuscript for the press.

Dr Herdman has in the press his Second Discourse on the Management of Infants and Treatment of their diseases; written in a plain, familiar style, to render it intelligible and useful to all mothers, and those who have the management of infants.

A second edition of Stanfield's Guinea Voyage, with observations on the Slave Trade, in a Series of Letters to Thomas Clarkson, A. M. is now in the press, and will be speedily published.

Feb. 1807.

Literay Intelligence, English *and* Foreign.

LORD VALENTIA, the eldest son of the Earl of Mount Norris, repaired a few years since to India, with a view to contribute to the extension of science, and to gratify his own curiosity. After his arrival in Calcutta, he repaired over land to Lucknow; and having accepted an invitation from Mr Paull, an eminent merchant there, he resided at his house during several months. When the rainy season commenced, he was accompanied by that gentleman down the stream of the Ganges; and they had an opportunity of becoming acquainted with whatever related to a river so famous in the annals and religious rites of the eastern world. In the course of several years' residence abroad, Lord Valentia has visited and examined a large portion of Asia, and has seen parts of Africa. Being of a curious and inquisitive turn, he has made a very valuable collection of whatever is rare or worthy of notice; and we are informed that the public will be speedily gratified with an account of his extensive travels, printed at the expense of his lordship. The exact size and extent of the work are not precisely ascertained, but it is supposed that it will consist of two or three volumes in quarto, with a folio volume of engravings. These travels, and those of Dr Buchanan, will bring us better acquainted with our vast possessions in Asia.

Sir John Carr will speedily gratify the public with an account of his recent excursion into Holland, and up the Rhine as far as Mentz. These countries have long been objects of considerable curiosity, on account of the great political changes which they have undergone, and the events of which they have been the scene, since they were last visited by Dr Cogan and Mrs Radcliffe. This volume, like the other popular travels of Sir John Carr, will be decorated with numerous views of the places which he visited.

Mr Northmore has been for a considerable time engaged in writing an epic poem, to be completed in ten books, entitled Washington, or Liberty Restored. The basis of the work, exclusive of the imagery, will rest solely upon historic truth.

Dr

Dr Gillies announces a History of the World, from the Reign of Alexander to that of Augustus, comprehending the latter ages of Greece, and the history of the Greek kingdoms in Asia and Africa, from their foundation to their destruction; with a preliminary survey of Alexander's eastern conquests, and a conjecture relative to his plans for their consolidation and improvement.

The Rev. William Turner, of Newcastle upon Tyne, has ready for publication an Abstract of the History of the Bible, for the use of children and young persons; with questions for examination, and a sketch of Scripture Geography, illustrated by maps.

Mr Mitford is preparing to publish a new edition of the History of Greece, from the earliest accounts to the death of Philip, King of Macedonia, revised and considerably augmented, and a fourth volume entirely new.

Dr Toulmin, of Birmingham, is preparing for the press a new edition of a scarce and valuable tract, entitled The Student and Pastor, by the Rev. John Mason, M. A. the author of the celebrated Treatise on Self-Knowledge. To this edition it is intended to add, the author's Letter to a Young Minister; with some notes and enlargements, particularly an Essay on Catechising, by the Editor.

Dr Bardsley, physician to the Manchester Infirmary, has been some time preparing for the press, and will speedily publish, a Selection of Medical Reports of Cases, Observations, and Experiments, chiefly derived from Hospital practice; including, among others, clinical histories of Diabetes, Chronic Rheumatism, and Hydrophobia.

Dr Kinglake is preparing some Strictures on Mr Parkinson's Observations on the Nature and Cure of Gout, recently published in opposition to the theory that proposes the cooling treatment of that disease. The same gentleman is about to publish additional Cases of Gout, in farther proof of the salutary efficacy of the cooling treatment of that afflicting disease; with illustrative annotations, written authorities in its support, controversial discussions, and a view of the present state and future prospects of the practice. And also a pamphlet, called the Reviewers Reviewed, containing general observations on legitimate and licentious criticism.

Mr Janson, an English gentleman, who has resided fourteen years in America, and has brought with him many interesting materials relative to the state of society and manners in that republic, is arranging them for the press; and they will speedily appear in a quarto volume, accompanied by a number of elegant engravings.

Mr Nathaniel Howard, of Plymouth, has completed a translation, in blank verse, of the Inferno of Dante, with notes historical, classical, and explanatory.

Dr A. P. Wilson, of Worcester, has nearly ready for publication an Essay on the Nature of Fever.

Some Letters and Posthumous Works of Mrs Chapone are preparing for publication, by one of her relations.

The Copleyan Medal has been adjudged to T. A. Knight, Esq. for his numerous discoveries in vegetable physiology. Sir Joseph Banks, upon presenting Mr Knight with the reward of his labours and high merit, pronounced a most able discourse on the pursuits of this gentleman. He noticed his researches and observations on the alburnous juices of plants, in its *ascent* elaborating the buds and leaves, and in its *descent* forming wood; and of his discovery of the natural decay of apple-trees, and of the grafts which decline and become unproductive at the same time with the parent stock. The learned President referred next to the experiments, which went to prove that all vegetables radiate by gravitation only, and not by any instinctive energy; that new and superior species of apples may be produced from seed; and that impregnating the pollen was found to be an advantageous substitute for grafting. He then alluded to the new and very valuable species of pears produced by Mr Knight, and to a new species of vines, which bear grapes not only superior in flavour to others hitherto known, but which are capable of arriving at perfection, even in the most adverse seasons, in our climate.

The Literary and Philosophical Society at Newcastle-upon-Tyne continues to flourish: many valuable Papers were communicated and read to it in the course of the last year. Much of the

the prosperity of this Society must be referred to the labours and zeal of the Rev. William Turner.

Mr Cumberland and Sir James Bland Burges will shortly publish a Poem, entitled the Exodiad. The subject is the departure of Israel from Egypt.

A new branch of science, entitled, *Mnemonica*, is now much studied in Germany. It was originally taught and practised in Egypt and Greece, and was an invention attributed to Simonides. The modern restorer of this art is M. Aretin, who exacts from his pupils a promise not to write down his lectures. According to a book, said to have been written by a child of twelve years of age, and mentioned in the catalogue for the last September fair at Leipsic, *mnemonica* is a true science, and may be so taught as to give a memory to individuals of every age*.

M. Olivier has lately presented to the National Institute an account of the Topography of Persia; in which he has described the chains of mountains, the courses of streams, and the productions peculiar to climate. The great and prevailing drought is the cause why not more than a twentieth part of that vast empire is cultivated. Entire provinces have not a single tree which is not planted and watered by the hands of man. This evil is constantly increasing, by the destruction of those canals by which the water from the mountains was formerly conducted to the lands.

Celestial Phenomena for March 1807.

Sunday, March 1st 1807.

THE planet VENUS is situated in longitude 11^s..25°..2′, and latitude 1°..17′ South. Her declination is 3°..9′ South, and she comes to the meridian about 50 minutes after 12 o'clock noon.

Wednesday, March 4th.

The planet MARS will be in opposition to the *Sun* at 12 o'clock noon, in longitude 5^s..13°..2′..18″, the longitude of the Sun being 11^s..13°.2′.″ 18″. His latitude is then 4°..3′..40. North; his declination 10°..28′ North, and he souths at 12 o'clock at night.

Thursday, March 5th.

About 17 minutes after 5 o'clock in the morning, the *first* and *second* satellites of JUPITER will be in conjunction on the Eastern side of his disc. The fourth is situated on the same side at a greater distance from Jupiter, and the third on the other side of the planet.

Wednesday March 11th.

About a quarter of an hour past five o'clock in the morning *all* the satellites of JUPITER will be situated on the Western side of his disc, in the same order as they lye in the system, the first being nearest, and the fourth farthest from the planet.

Thursday, March 12th.

The *first* and *second* satellites of JUPITER will be in conjunction on the left hand of his disc, at 17 minutes after 5 o'clock in the morning. The third and fourth satellites are situated on the other side of Jupiter, the third being nearest the planet.

Friday, March 13th.

The planet SATURN will be situated in longitude 7^s..10°..2′, and latitude 2°..37′ North. His declination is 12°..22′ South, and he will come to the meridian at 48 minutes after 2 oclock in the morning.

Thursday, March 19th.

The longitude of Jupiter is at present 10^s..4°..40′, and his latitude 21′ South. His declination is 19°..28′ South, and the time of his southing 8^h..20′ in the morning.

Saturday, March 21st.

The GEORGIUM SIDUS is at present situated in 6^s..29°..28′ of longitude, and 34 minutes of North latitude. Its declination is 10°..46′ South, and he will come to the meridian about 35 minutes after 1 o'clock in the morning.

On

* A gentleman known to the writer of this article, can, by the power of association, repeat backwards and forwards, or by any complex alternation, thirty abstract terms, on hearing them repeated but once.

On the same day, at 23 minutes after 12 o'clock noon, the *Sun* will enter the sign *Aries*, and his longitude will be 0.

Saturday, March 22d.

The planet MERCURY will arrive at his greatest elongation from the Sun, and may be seen in the evening after sunset. His declination is about 10 degrees North, and therefore his northern amplitude is considerably greater than that of the Sun.

Monday, March 23d.

About a quarter past five o'clock in the morning, *all* the Satellites of Jupiter will be situated on the Eastern side of his disc, the first being nearest, and the fourth farthest from the planet.

Tuesday, March 31st.

The planet MERCURY will be *stationary* in longitude 0s..24°..40′, and latitude 3°..17′ North.

Edinburgh,
Feb. 27. 1807.

Memoirs of the Progress of MANUFACTURES, CHEMISTRY, SCIENCE, *and the* FINE ARTS.

IT appears from the experiments of Mr J. Tatum, that a considerable degree of heat is generated by the galvanic decomposition of water.—In one case, the temperature of the water was increased 10 degrees of Farenheit. Mr Tatum accounts for the liberation of the caloric, by supposing that the galvanic fluid furnished more caloric than was necessary for converting the water into gases.

The following new and curious process of gilding has lately been made public, and has been applied to the beautiful gilt trinkets which have been so much admired, and are cheaper in price than those which were formerly made. Form a smooth amalgam of twelve parts of mercury and one part of zinc, which may be improved by the addition of a little gold. Clean the copper-piece or trinket to be gilt, very carefully with nitric acid. Put the amalgam into muriatic acid, and add orgol, (the name given to *crude tartar* in the shops.) Boil the clean copper in this mixture, and it will be very finely gilt. Copper wire coated in this manner is capable of being drawn out to the fineness of a hair, though copper alone is not near so ductile. This wire is used for making gold lace, and for epaulets and other similar articles. The theory of the above process seems to resemble that of whitening pins; and its useful applications may probably be more numerous than those which have yet been adopted.

The discovery of the production of light from pit coal, which has been lately claimed in France; was made in this country by Dr James Clayton, before the year 1664. His experiments concerning the *spirit of coals*, in a letter addressed to the Honourable Mr Boyle, were found in the British Museum by Mr J. Webster, under the following title (Ascough's Manu. 4437.) The experiments were undertaken by Dr Clayton in consequence of his having found that gas issuing from fissures near a coal pit at Nigan in Lancashire took fire when a burning candle was presented to it. Upon observing this phenomenon, Dr Clayton distilled coal, and remarked, that "Fleghm" came over, afterwards a "Black oyle," and then an "inflamable spirit." He collected this spirit into bladders, and amused his friends by pricking a hole in a full bladder, and setting fire to the gas.

A new permanent compensation balance, for time-keepers, has been invented by Mr William Hardy, who has received from the Society of Arts a reward of 30 guineas for this invention. See Nicholson's Journal, vol. xvi. p. 120.

The communications between the various parts of Machinery are generally

rally made by a band running over two wheels or pulleys, and as the relative velocity of the wheels is in the inverse ratio of their diameters, it is evident that no variation of velocity can be obtained, unless by the substitution of different wheels, or by a a change in the impelling power.—In order to remedy this inconvenience, Mr Andrew Flint has invented an expanding band wheel, by which the diameter of the one wheel may be increased, while that of the other is diminished. By which means their relative velocity may be altered at pleasure. A premium of 50 guineas was awarded to Flint for his invention by the Society of Arts. See their Transactions, vol. xxiii.

A very useful bolt for book-case doors has been invented by Mr P. Herbert; and an improved door latch by Mr John Antis; both which inventions have been rewarded by the Society of Arts. See Nicholson's Journal, vol. 16. p. 154, 155.

Edinburgh.
Feb. 27. 1807.

Poetry.

NAPOLEON ET L'ECHO.

JE suis seul, en ce lieu personne ne m'ecoute!—*Ecoute.*
Morbleu! Qui me repond? Quel etre est avec moi?—*Moi.*
Ah! j'entends; c'est l'Echo qui rendit ma demande!—*Demande?*
Scais tu si deformais Londres resistera?—*Resistera.*
Si Vienne et Petersbourg m'opposeront toujours?... *Toujours!*
Ah! ciel, que dois-je attendre apres tant de malheurs?... *Malheurs!*
En lache, a composer je serai donc reduit?... *Reduit.*
Apres tant de hauts faits, que devrai je entreprendre?.. *Rendre.*
Rendre? Ce que j'ai acquis par des faits inouis?... *Oui!*
Eh! quel sera le fruit de tant de soins et peines?... *Peines.*
Enfin que deviendra mon peuple malheureux?... *Heureux!*
Que serai-je alors, moi qui me crois immortel?... *Mortel!*
L'univers n'est il pas rempli de mon nom? ...*Non!*
Autrefois mon seul nom inspiroit la terreur?... *Erreur!*
Triste Echo, laisse moi, j'enrage, je me meure?... *Meurs!*

A Satire, relating to Public Affairs 1638-39, *with Notes, &c.*

(This curious piece was obligingly transmitted to us, by a literary gentleman of the first eminence, who found a copy, probably the only one which exists, written on the blank leaves of an early edition of the edition of the Bruce, in a hand of the middle of the 17th century. It was probably composed by Mr Thomas Forrester, Episcopal minister of Melrose, a man of considerable humour, who was deposed by the Assembly in 1638, on account of various alledged crimes, of which the chief was doubtless his attachment to prelacy, and to the royal cause. Milne, in his "description of the Parish of Melrose," p. 38-41. expresses his surprize that a Satire, which made so much noise in its day, should not have been noticed, and preserved by succeeding writers. He had searched in vain for a copy *. The piece is well worthy preservation, having much satirical and forcible expression. We have added a few notes, collected from the history of the times, to illustrate the leading characters mentioned in it.)

First Part.

FROME Glasgow † road to which mad meeting,
Huge troups frome all quarters came fleeting,
With dags and guns in forme of warre ‡,
All loyal subjects to debarre;

Wher

* He quotes several lines which are not found in the Satire, but this discrepancy is easily accounted for, as he took them from the recitation of an old gentlewoman.

† The General Assembly in 1638, which threw off the King's authority, was held at Glasgow.

‡ The covenanters came armed to this Assembly, under pretence of securing their personal safety against the outrages which were said to have been committed in that neighbourhood, by the clan of the Macgregors. *Stevenson's Hist. of the Church.* vol. 2.

Wher Bishops * might not shew their faces;
And mushroome elders † find their places.
Frome such mad pranks of Catharus,
Almighty God deliver us!

Frome sitting in that convocation,
Discharged by open proclamation ‡,
Who did not stirr till they had ended,
All the mischief they had intended;
Frome all their cobweb knaves and knacks,
Fel out in forme of public acts,
And all such pranks, &c.

Frome usurping the king's forts,
Frome fortifying his sea-ports,
To shelter rebels, and withstand
The King's, nay God's revenging hand;
Frome usurping the king's mint,
Frome starting treasone books in print,
And all mad pranks, &c.

Namely Buchannan's Regni Jus,
Among such books most pernicious,
Now there is one worse, so God me save,
Sent out I thinke from Hell's conclave;
I cannot hit its name, shame fall it,
"Defensive armes," I trow they call it,
And all such, &c.

Frome usurping the King's presse,
So that no book could have accesse,
Which might maintaine the King's just title,
Or crosse the covenant ne'er so little;
It's strange, but trew, books of that straine
Are bar'd under the highest pain,
And all such pranks, &c.

Frome displaying the covenant's banner,
Frome taking up in savage maner
Horses, cornes, catle, every thing,
Frome true men to God and King,
Namelie from kirkmen, I am sorie,
When I think on Breichen's ‖ sad storie,
And all such pranks, &c.

Frome attempting to translate
The sacred monuments of state,
From the sevententh of December,
Which day with horrour we remember;
Frome threatning to renew the play,
Hatcht on that black and dismal day,
And all such pranks, &c.

Frome cassing acts of Parlament,
Without the three estates consent,
Nay, if th' assembly do command,
The King him selfe may not withstand;
Ecclesiastical decrees
Against state lawes and liberties,
And all such pranks, &c.

Frome abrogating prelacie
In Parliament; one of the three
Estates, it cannot be denied
But that estate should be supply'd;
But how I pray shal this be done,
Unless it be brought frome the moone,
And all such, &c,

Frome making pricklows and the King
Of equal power in every thing,
Perteining to kirk government,
And that with Bellarmine s extent;
To all things which in any sense
To kirk maters have reference,
And all such, &c.

Frome transcendant prerogative
Given to a bodie collective,
A mutinous maklet trouble-feast,
A prattie, peevish, monstrous beast;
With many heads, and in all things
A Puritane, the bane of Kings,
And all such, &c.

Frome Boyd's * French "Ruling Elder's hors:"
His "Gilead's Balme," a great deal wors,
And

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* The court were extremely urgent that bishops should be admitted into this Assembly, and that one of their number should be moderator; but this the opposite party, who were bent on the ruin of prelacy, successfully opposed. *Stew. Hist. Church.*

† The Court urged also the exclusion of lay elders, wishing the Assembly to consist entirely of clergymen, with the view, doubtless, of shutting it against those powerful nobles who had exposed the party of the covenanters; but this proposal was also frustrated. *Ib.*

‡ On the 29th November 1638, a proclamation was made at the Market Cross of Glasgow, prohibiting, under pain of treason, any farther meetings of the Assembly. The Assembly, however, in defiance of this proclamation, resolved to continue their sittings, and proceeded to the most violent measures against the Court and Bishops. *Ib.*

‖ John Wedderburn, who was first Bishop of Dumblain, and afterwards of Brechin. Of all the Bishops he appears to have been the most zealous for prelacy, and for the royal authority. When the service book first came down, he allowed the clergy of his diocese no alternative, but either of reading it, or of immediate deposition. Afterwards, when dread of popular violence deterred all the other Bishops even from reading it themselves, he "resolved to serve the King at a time when other feeble cowards crouched." Accordingly with his family he went armed to church, and having got in before the usual time, shut the doors and read the service: but was so roughly handled on his return home, that he never ventured to repeat the experiment. When the assembly at Glasgow, in December 1638, proceeded to violent measures against the Bishops, he was at once deposed and excommunicated. *Ib.*

* Lord Boyd. He was among the first no-

And last of al, his revocatione
(For his young sone) of a donatione;
Made by himselfe to pious use;
Frome all such foolries and abuse,
And all such pranks, &c.

Frome one thing said, another seen,
Frome th' outrage done to Aberdeen;
Frome hollow hearts and holy faces,
Frome ridiculous prayers and graces;
From peremptorie reprobatione,
Frome Hendersone's * rebaptizatione,
And all such pranks, &c.

First when the baser sort began
To act rebellioune, O than
It was base rebellioune and rage:
But when great men entered the stage,
And act it over again, O strange,
It was pure religione from that change,
And all such pranks, &c.

Frome false and forged informations,
Against the King's gracious declarations.
Whereby they laboured to persuade,
That he forsooth minds to invade
His own subjects and to subdue them,
Even as a King that never knew them,
And all such, &c.

Frome puritane's equivocationes,
And from their mental reservationes,
Wherein they doe, ther is no doubt,
Jesuites in their own bow outshoot;
From all rebellious leagues and unions,
Gathering to sections and communions,
And all such, &c.

Frome kirkmen's independencie,
The main pillar of papacy,
Frome censures past on men for breaking
Of kirks canons before their making;
From ruling elders inspirations,
And phanatick jaculations,
And all such, &c.

Frome turncoat preacher's supplications,
And from their mental reservationes,
Frome lawless excommunications,
Frome Locker's houshold congregasions,
Frome unsupportable taxations,
Ther are the covenanting actions,
And all such, &c.

The Second Part.

Frome Hendersone who doeth ourtope
The Patriarcks, for he is Pope,
Yet Leckie * makes bold to oppose,
His holines ev'n to his nose;
Leckie, a covenanting brother,
Go to, let on divel ding another,
And all such, &c.

Frome Leslie's † quondam excellence
Who wants too long a recompence
For his good service; yet, however,
Better he have it late than never;
The same I wish to all arch traitours,
To all their favourers and factors,
And all such mates, &c.

Frome all who swear themselves mensuorne,
Frome Louthian, Loudoun, Lindsay, Lorne,
Prince Rothes, and Balmirrino ‡,
And devout Lordings many moe;

Who

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noblemen who signed the covenant, and was sent with some others to Glasgow, in order to overcome the scruples which were entertained against it by some clergymen there. ib. *Stev. Hist. Church.*

* Alexander Henderson, minister of Leuchars. He was at first a supporter of prelacy, and had thereby rendered himself so unpopular, that at his admission the populace blocked up all the doors, and they were obliged to break in at the windows. He was converted, however, by a sermon of Mr Robert Bruce, a name famous in the annals of Presbytery. From that time he became the prime mover in all the measures against the Court and Bishops. On the meeting of Assembly in 1638, he was made moderator. He died in 1646. *Stevenson Baillie, passim. Scots Worthies, p.* 169.

* The Laird of Leckie, a gentleman of property in Stirlingshire, who became the head of a sort of independent sect, and in imitation of some refugees from Ireland, held private meetings at his own house, where the Irish form of worship was used. In an age of innovation, this novelty soon met with many followers. Leckie having besides spoken disrespectfully of Mr Harry Guthrie, and other ministers of Stirling, was arraigned before the Assembly, and long discussions took place on the subject. "Mr Henderson vented himself on many occasions passionately opposite to these conceits." *Baillie's Letters.*

† Colonel, afterwards General Leslie, who commanded the army of the covenanters.

‡ So early as 1638, the Earl of Lothian, Lord Loudon, Lord Balmerino, the Earl of Rothes, and Lord Lyndsay, are enumerated by Guthrie as avowed supporters of the presbyterian interest. (Mem. P. 9—) Loudon, in particular, was a most strenuous supporter of this cause. Even in 1626, when the King brought forward his scheme for the revocation of tithes and church lands, this nobleman, with Lord Rothes, went to London, and petitioned, though without effect, against that measure. These two were always employed in presenting the various representations and supplications which were afterwards made to the King on the subject of the liturgy and Perth articles.

Who lead the dance and rule the rost,
And forceth us to make the cost,
And all such, &c.

Frome Duns Lawe's rebells rubbed out,
Rascails frome all quarters thurst out;
Faire England's forces to defeate,
Without armour, money, or meat:
True, some had forks, and some had dags,
And some had bannocks in their bags.
And all such, &c.

Frome the table's emissaries,
Frome mutineers of all degrees:
Priests, Lords, Judges, and clerks of toune
Proud citizens, poor country cloune;
Who in all courses disagree,
Bot joyne to crosse authoritie,
And all such, &c.

From thes who put no difference
'Twixt constraint and obedience,
St Paul made Cæsar supreme judge,
To Cæsar had his last refuge;
Fy then on these who dare appeal
Frome Cæsar in preposterous zeal,
And all such, &c.

From

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ticles. He was one of those employed to draw up the complaint against the bishops, given in 1637, and when, after repeated remonstrances, the Commissioners were at length admitted before the council, he made a long speech, enumerating all the grievances which Scotland had suffered, and declaring, that, far from submitting to be tried by the Bishops, he could prove them guilty of the most shocking crimes. Afterwards, when Charles was compelled, by his disasters in England, to throw himself in the arms of the Scottish Parliament, he made Loudon Lord Chancellor. And when the King was afterwards reduced to the last extremity, he was one of those that presented the petition calling upon him to take the covenant; at which time he is said to have accosted his Majesty in the following *plain* terms: "The difference between your Majesty and your Parliament is grown to such a height, that, after many bloody battles, they have your Majesty, with all your garisons and strong holds, in their hands, &c. They are in a capacity now to do what they will in Church and State; and some are so afraid, and others so unwilling, to proceed to extremities, till they know your Majesty's last resolution. Now, Sire, if your Majesty shall refuse your consent to the resolutions, you will lose all your friends in the House and in the City, and all England will join against you as one man: they will depose you, and set up another government; they will charge us to deliver your Majesty to them, and remove our arms out of England; and upon your refusal we will be obliged to settle religion and peace without you; which will ruin your Majesty and your posterity." (Scots Worthies. p. 247.) On the establishment of Cromwell's government he lost all his influence, and was dismissed from his office. The restoration, however, was much worse, when "it is inconceivable to express the grief this godly nobleman sustained," both on account of the renewal of "Popery, prelacy, and slavery," and the dangers which threatened his own person. These affected him so violently, that he died on the 15th of March 1662, before the next meeting of Parliament. (Stevenson's History of the Church. Baillies Letters.)

Lord Rothes was equally zealous, and his name is generally mentioned along with that of Loudon in the transactions of those times. In the Parliament of 1638, on the clerk's declaring that an important question had been carried in the King's favour, Rothes rose and affirmed the contrary. When the King went north shortly after, the Earl of Rothes and Lord Lindsay assembled about 2000 of the Fife gentry to meet him, but the King was so incensed at their previous conduct, that he shunned them by taking a by-road to Dunfermline.

Lord Balmerino concurred in all the measures of the other Lords, and particularly in a petition which was to have been presented to the King in 1633, but was suppressed from the fear of offending his Majesty. This petition having been found in Balmerino's possession, a criminal process was opened against him, and by the casting vote of the Earl of Traquair, he was condemned to die. But, "it was resolved, either to set him at liberty, or to revenge his death on the Court and eight jurymen;" which, Traquair learning, procured him a pardon. This transaction, both by irritating the covenanters, and by shewing them their own strength, proved deeply injurious to the royal cause.

Archibald Lord Lorne, afterwards Marquis of Argyle, was much slower in declaring himself. He continued long a member of Council, though he is supposed to have made secret remonstrances against the imprudent measures of the Court. But in 1638, when the General Assembly determined to sit, notwithstanding their being dissolved, this nobleman agreed, though not a member, to continue a witness to their proceedings, which the Assembly considered "as the greatest human encouragement they could meet with," but which occasioned a complete breach between him and the Court. The subsequent fortunes of this nobleman are sufficiently known.

Frome Prelates damned by self-confession,
Frome Prelates ne'er the same transgressione,
Of loyalty; bot hold, alooffe,
Frome traitours under trust, yow'll say
Ther is non such, yet we will pray,
From all such mates, &c.

Frome Will Dick, that usurious chuff,
His feathered cape, his coat of buff;
For all the world a saddled sow,
A worthie man and Generall too:
From both the Duries *, these mad sparks,
One brybing judge, two cheating clerks,
And all such, &c.

Frome Charlitan, if yow would know him,
His printed beard, his breaches show him,
A whyted bauk of rotten timber,
Is th' upright emblem of that limber,
Thanks to the covenant, his whoores
Live now at rest within his doores.
And all such, &c.

Frome corner-creeping parlour preachers,
Of blind disciples, more blind teachers;
Frome cisternes that no water hold,
Frome Aberdeen's base and false gold,
Frome daubers with untempered mortar,
Frome Row †, that spurgald pulpit sporter,
And all such pranks, &c.

Frome northern Dunbar, Murray's chanter,
The knave became a covenanter;
To save his lyfe how may that be,
The covenant its a sanctuary
To felons and to falsuries,
And all such cheating rogues as he is,
And all such, &c.

Frome the most stupid sensles asse,
That ever breath'd my cousin classe,
He is th' assemblyes voyce, and so,
Th' assembly is his echo.
The fool speaks first, and all the rest
To say the same are ready prest,
And all such, &c.

Frome Eliot, Tueddal's Jackanaips,
In pulpit when it skips and leaps,
It makes good sport, I must confesse,
Its a mad monkie, questionlesse.
Frome Selkrike's glory young and old,
Selkrike's reproof if truth were told,
And all such, &c.

Frome Minniboles Bonner*, out upon him,
I could find in my heart to stone him;
The knave affirmes that ther's no odds
Betwixt his hors, his hous, and gods;
Frome Ecfoord's trumpeter of stryfe,
Who worships a deafe idoll wyfe,
And all such, &c.

Frome kirk chie knave or foole,
He puts our courtachie to schoole;
From Lesly, that adulterous boar,
And devout parlours by the scoare,
Where monstrous whores resort not one
Except the whore of Babylone,
And all such, &c.

Frome him that's neither cold nor hot,
Frome Kersalt Prestone's saltles sot,
Frome Adamsone †, pray know the man,
A palyard drunkard charlitan,
And principal in al three, its much
That any old man should be such,
And all such, &c.

Frome covenanting familists,
Amsterdamian separatists,
Antinomians and Brownists,
Jesuitizing Calvinists,
Murranizing Buchananists,
All monster Misobasilists,
These are the maites of Catharus.
Almighty God deliver us.

Frome noble beggers, beggermakers,
Frome all bold and blood undertakers,
Frome catchpoles knyted clounes,
Frome perfumed puppies and babouns,
Frome caterpillars, moths, and rats,
Hors leiches, state, blood-suicking brates,
And all such, &c.

Frome Sandie Hazo, and Sandie Gibsone ‡,
Sandie Kinneir, and Sandie Johnstoun;
Whose

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* The *Gibsons* of *Durie*. The laird of Durie appears, like Argyll, to have once been a member of the royal council. He came over, however, earlier to the other side; for before the meeting of the assembly, we find him protesting against the substitution of the confession of faith for the covenant. From that time the cause of the covenant was strenuously supported by himself and all his family, particularly Alexander, of whom more hereafter.

† John Row, minister at Carnock. He appears frequently in the covenanting lists, and was even proposed as moderator of the General Assembly 1638, though Henderson was preferred.

* *James Bonner*, minister at Maybole: He is often mentioned among the most active presbyterians, though we find nothing particular recorded of him.

† *John Adamson*, Principal of the University of Edinburgh, and a zealous supporter of the covenant.

‡ *Alex. Gibson*, younger of Durie, advocate. When the King's declaration of the 4th of July was published at Edinburgh, he protested against it in name of the Barons. He was also employed to collect evidence against several of the Bishops, at the time of their prosecution by the Assembly in 1638.

Whose knaverie made them covenanters,
To keep their neckes out of the helters
Of falshood greid what yow'll't name,
Of treacherie they think no shame.
Yet thes the mates of Catharus,
Frome whome good Lord deliver us.

ESSAY
On the Economy of Life.
Addressed to Miss ——

A' The haunts o' joy explorin',
List'ning to the gratefou' thrush,
Smiling, nature's God adoring,
Sweetly i' the hawthorn bush.

And whan Winter, surly carle,
Sleeks the howlin' glen wi' snaw,
Oure a stowp an' tostit farl,
Bonnelie my pipes I'll blaw.

Twa three neibors craikin' doucely
Roun' a cannie blinkin' bleese,
Canty taylors liltin' crousely,
Makin' breeks, an' cloutin' claes.

And by turns, amang han's tellin',
How a ghaist wi' bluidy pow,
Like a scaudit wull-cat yellin',
Chac'd them up the goblin howe:

Or how Gibbie Deemster's Johnnie
On the mou wi' Grizzie roostit,
Wi' the flail o' brawnie Brownie,
Gat his banes like bear-strae noostit:

Or how spunkie fain wad haen them
Headlang to their lang hames rin,
Half a strae-breadth mair wad ta'en them
Oure the craigs o' Crichup lin.

At sic wonderfu' narrations,
Carlines soomin' on a sieve,
Tried at Jamie's quarter-sessions *,
Smudgin' we'se laugh i' our sleeve.

Syne whan raggit Want sae wan
Faulds his han's, an' lifts his e'e,
To that Power whase lib'ral han'
Plenty showers on you an' me.

Fair creation's bounteous Lord
Will our thankfu' hearts expand,
Touching ilka quivering chord
Wi' a saft an an' heav'nly hand.

Owre his kent wi' shiv'rin' sich,
Tottren' shanks, an' pithless banes,
Yont the hallan loutin' laigh,
Hark, the Gaiuberlunzie maens.

Wha're come ye frae, onest carl,
Kuir'd wi' pouthrie drift an' sleet?
Ganging throu' a staney warl,
Fits but ill your feckless feet.

"Little trou'd I yince whan beekin',
"I' the sin on fortune's knee,
"That I'd e'er a mouthfu' seekin',
"Frail an' friendless dight my e'e.

"Basking i' the dazz'ling ray,
"Little wist I e'er to prie,
"What the duddie sons o' wae
"Never sought in vain frae me."

Poorteth's pow o' siller grey,
Bleach'd wi' time's cauld withrin' blast,
Shanna fa' sae lang's I ha'e
Gat a nievefu' i' the kist.

Come in owre an' thow your hool,
Bienly glows the clean hearth-stane,
Here's a blese, an' there's a stool,
Ca' my chimney-cheek your ain.

Mary, tho' the tear is saut,
I 'compassion's pitying e'e,
'Tis a drop I fondly daut,
Mair than owther gowd or fee.

'Tis a sparkling diamond bright,
Fair in onie e'e it seems,
But whan bleerin' beauty's sight,
O how bonnelie it beams.

Gae wi' me an' bught the yows,
Whare the birks wi' fragrance drap,
Whare the limpid burnie rowes,
Meand'ring Nature's velvet lap.

Gae wi' me whare ruddy health,
Blythe contentments luggie tooms,
Laughin' at unwieldy wealth,
Linkin' throu' the heather blooms.

Gin gude luck wi' sonsie leuk,
Keeps his e'e on a' we aught,
Scaurin' skaith frae ilka buik,
I' the byre and the bught

Warm in fortune's sunny beams,
Gowfmalogie like we're neer,
Clad our skins, an' stap our wames,
Wi' a skair o' fopp'ry's geer.

Nor aerial bouroks build,
On the sandy shoals o' life,
Whare unsicker turrets would
Sink amid the bellowy strife.

This braw gate o' keukin' wealth
Keeps the harp o' life in tune,
Beets the glow o' rosey health
Mak's enjoyment's pat play brown.

Strews wi' fragrance breathing flowers,
Ilka path and smileing scene,
Op'ning to the blessfu' bowers,
Clad wi' claes o' deathless green.

Gae wi' me an bught the yows,
Whare the birks wi' fragrance drap,

Whare

* Alluding to certain laws enacted by that *wise*, *pious*, and *learned* monarch, James I. of *blessed memory*, for exterminating all such as had ill *een*, and began their prayers with "Our Father which *wart* in heaven."

Whare the limpid burnie rowes,
Meand'ring Nature's velvet lap.

Gae wi' me whare swaddled Self
Has not thrown awa' his bells,
Whare on ilka cottar's skelf
Welcome bids us help oursels.

Whare untutor'd honest toil,
Kens na how to mask his heart,
Whare dissimulation vile,
Lispin' acts a bairnley part.

There to sordid self unknown,
Daunrin' down life's peacefu' vale,
Whan enjoyment's pat gaes on,
Prudence ay shall keuk the kail.

There we'll spend life's doubtfu' day,
Gowfing fortune's kittle ba';
Syne we'll tak' our pipes and play,
"Gude night an' joy be wi' ye a'."

London, 1806. *T. M. C.*

LINES

*Written at F****s, Oct.* 1806, *and addressed to Miss C——n.*

AH! what avail our culture-blooming lawns,
Tho' there the smile of vernal nature dawns,
Though Flora there yields, in perennial bloom,
Charms, to each vale, and to each gale perfume;
Tho' bounteous Ceres with a liberal hand
Pours her rich treasures o'er a fertile land:
If Happiness disdain these sweets to share,
And leave the shades to sorrow and to care.
While here the brown heath murmuring to the blast
That sweeps for ever o'er the cheerless waste,
Is all around the sick'ning eye surveys,
A desart length'ning to the mountain's base!
Withsluggish pools in long succession join'd
Matted with grass bleak-whistling in the wind;
Save now and then, some mossy stream beside
The dark turf cottage faintly is espied;
Whose rude form rear'd by artless hands in haste,
Scarce shields its inmates from the driving blast:
While Poverty, with all her train of woes,
Broods o'er the land and chaces sweet repose,
And the long week of unremitting toil,
Stamps their minds rugged and their native soil,
And ignorance, with unoppos'd controul,
Blasts every finer feeling of the soul.
Yet here at length, amid this withering waste,
The cherub peace might seek this anxious breast,
Might chace the clouds from life's dark dreary day,
With new-born ardour teach my pulse to play,
And wing the golden hours with rapture on their way.
For nature's beauties but *attendant* wait,
They add to pleasure, but cannot create.
Say, can the sweetness of the opening spring,
Or all the beauties summer's suns can bring?
Can all that smiles beneath the morning's ray,
Or all the fragrance of departing day?
Can all the charms of nature and of art
Soothe into joy the sorrow-swelling heart?
No: to the breast that's tenanted by care,
No sweets are pleasing, and no scene is fair:
While every scene yields pleasure to his eye,
Whose swelling bosom throbs with rapture high.

Thus, Isabella, thy sweet smile of love
Could change these desarts to the myrtle grove,
Could deck these heaths with Flora's every child,
And plant an Eden in the lonely wild.

O were it mine to spend my joyous days
With love and you where murmuring Lossie strays!
Then should this heart bid all its wand'rings cease,
And taste the blessings of content and peace.
But other cares fate dooms me to pursue,
Far, far remov'd from happiness and you.

F. G.

ON WINTER.

KEEN is the cutting wind; fierce winter hoar
Grasps nature in his killing cold embrace;
Submiss and tame is every beast of chace,
And each sweet bird forgets its dulcet lore;
Humble and homely round the cottage door
They fluttering croud, though late so wild and shy;
And Pity's tribute wishfully implore
From those in happier days they wont to fly.
So can Misfortune low the proudest crest,
Shew arrogance and folly what they are;
Strike deep instruction to presumption's breast,
And Vice and Pleasure's baited hook lay bare.
But oh, hard teacher! tho' the passions fly,
With them all genius' fire, all fancy's glories die.

J. K.

PROLOGUE

PROLOGUE

To the new Play of

ADRIAN AND ORRILA;

Or, A Mother's Vengeance.

WRITTEN BY

LUMLEY ST GEORGE SKEFFINGTON, ESQ.

Spoken by Mr BRUNTON.

LONG has the Stage, determin'd to impart
Such scenes alone as meliorate the heart,
Barred from all avenues, with rigid sway,
Plots which corrupt, and maxims that betray.
With elevation now, the altered muse
That praise rejects which virtue should refuse:
In Fancy's rose no vivid colour sees,
Unless that vividness the just can please;
In Wit's gay brilliant owns no sparkling gem,
Unless allow'd as brilliancy by them;
Proud of no praise, of no distinction vain,
Unless distinguish'd in the moral train,
Celebrity she holds as disrepute,
And scorns all laurel from a shameful root!
Licentious follies rarely intervene,
And truth, and sense, and honour claim the scene!
When love's distress shall in our story rise,
Let sighs break forth—for those are nature's *sighs*,
When persecuted worth in grief appears,
Be proud to weep—for those are virtue's *tears*.

But to our author: Each dramatic bard
Solicits, but in vain, a long regard;
Form'd to attract the Fashion of the day,
They, like that fashion, swiftly pass away;
They gain, at most, employ'd in such a cause,
Uncertain honour, fugitive applause!—
Now hopes, now fears, his anxious heart compose,
Half sunk by these, and just upheld by those;
For in our days, when Envy smiles to sting,
Grief follows joy, and praises censure bring.
Then Wits and Heroes, and the Critic few,
Here let me pass, and, Ladies, plead to *you*;
You for whose favour ev'ry wit is bright,
All critics comment, and all heroes fight!
Protection from the fair at once conveys
Ample renown, consolidated praise;
For truth acknowledges, in Nature's name,
The *smiles* of Beauty are the *wreaths* of Fame!
Urg'd still by them, by their reward impress'd,
Each noble passion animates the breast:
They form the heart to ev'ry aim refin'd,
Exalt, delight, and dignify mankind.

RETROSPECT OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS FOR 1806.

Concluded from our last, p. 48.

THESE, however, were not the only measures taken by Bonaparte to hurt the trade of the British. Disappointed, perhaps, in his expectations of the plunder of these neutral cities, he issued what is called an "Imperial De-"cree," by which the British islands are declared to be in a state of blockade. This decree directs all trade and correspondence with Britain to be prohibited; and every subject of England in the countries occupied by French troops, or by those of her allies, to be made prisoners of war, and their goods confiscated. A decree of this kind, issued by France against any other power, might have its effects; but, when opposed to the naval strength of Britain, its menaces can only be regarded as the language of impotence. The King of Prussia, after his defeat at Jena, retired to his dominions on the other side of the Vistula, and in the city of Koningsberg, with the shattered remains of his forces, now waits the arrival of the Russian armies to his aid. An armistice with the French was indeed signed at Berlin, on the 17th of November, by a plenipotentiary from the unfortunate prince; but the conditions were so degrading, that, reduced as he was, he refused to ratify it. In the course of this short campaign it is evident, from the proclamations of the King, that many of the Prussian commanders had not done their duty; and that Bonaparte owes perhaps as much of his success to artifice as to the bravery or superior numbers

bers of his soldiers. The Duke of Brunswick died at Altona, on the 10th of November, of the wounds he received at the Battle of Jena, and his territory has been seized upon by the invaders of Germany.

Bonaparte has now (Dec. 1806,) advanced to the Vistula, and part of his army have taken possession of Warsaw, the ancient capital of Poland. As yet, the Russian armies collecting in that neighbourhood have not risked an engagement. The Prussian king remains at Koningsberg, undaunted by the present reverse. He has issued proclamations to the inhabitants of Silesia, requiring them to rise in arms against their invaders; and is employed in forming a new army, which, though it may not be so numerous as the one which he has lost, may yet, with the aid of the gigantic force of Alexander, recover the territories and military reputation of the House of Brandenburgh.

Austria, during the events of last year, has preserved a strict neutrality; but Sweden is menaced with invasion; and Stralsund has been declared in a state of siege. Portugal and Denmark still preserve a precarious neutrality.

The affairs of Turkey have not been of sufficient importance to merit particular notice. It may be remarked however in this place, that another revolution has taken place in St Domingo, in October, in which the Black Emperor Dessalines was killed, and Christophe elected to supply his place.

Britain, though disqualified by her situation from taking an active part in the battles of the Continent, was nevertheless not without her share of success in the transactions of last year; and while Bonaparte was overturning kingdoms in Europe, she was extending her conquests and her commerce in Asia, Africa, and America. In the East Indies, peace had been secured by treaties with the native chiefs Scindia and Holkar, and a French squadron, consisting of one ship of 80, and another of 40 guns, which had for a considerable time committed depredations on the British trade in the Indian seas, was captured on its return home, on the 13th of March, by the squadron under the command of Sir J. Borlase Warren. In the West Indies, British valour was equally successful. A French squadron of five sail of the line was on the 6th of Feb. attacked by Admiral Sir J. T. Duckworth, with a British force of seven sail, near the island of St Domingo; and a severe engagement ensued, at the close of which all the French ships struck their colours. Two of the French commanders, however, run their ships ashore, and they were afterwards destroyed;—one of 80, and two of 74, remained to grace the triumph of the conquerors. On the 25th of October, Sir Samuel Hood, while cruizing on his station, fell in with a squadron of five French frigates, which had escaped from Rochefort, and after a pretty severe action succeeded in capturing four of them. In this action Sir Samuel had the misfortune to lose his right arm. To these successful efforts of maritime valour, we might add numberless others of lesser importance, though of equal merit, atchieved in the course of the year; but for these we must refer our readers to our monthly *Historical Registers*, as the enumeration of them in this place would swell the present article to an improper length.

The capture of the Cape of Good Hope forms one of the most striking acquisitions of the British in the last year. On the 31st August 1805, a considerable armament sailed from Britain under the command of General Sir David Baird, and Commodore Sir Home Popham. On the 4th of January 1806, they reached Table Bay; and after some difficulties landed on the 7th. On the 8th they marched about 4000 strong, to meet the enemy, who were posted under the Dutch General Janssens to the amount of about 5000 men. The contest, though severe, was short, and was closed by the British charging the enemy with the bayonet. Janssens made a precipitate retreat, leaving about 700 killed or wounded. On the 9th the British advanced to Cape Town, which surrendered by capitulation; and on the 24th the Dutch General, who had retired to the interior with the remainder of the troops under his command, was forced to capitulate *.

The easy conquest of this important place seems to have inspired its gallant cap-

* Vide Scots Mag. for 1806, p. 214.

captors with fresh enterprise. General Beresford and Commodore Sir Home Popham sailed from the Cape on the 20th of March, with a small body of forces, to which they received some addition, and a supply of stores at St Helena. On the 8th of June they arrived off Cape St Mary, at the mouth of the great river La Plata; and on the 24th they were up that river, opposite the town of Buenos Ayres, the capital of the province. On the 25th the British troops landed; and the day following, notwithstanding their inferiority, dispersed the army of Spaniards opposed to them. Buenos Ayres capitulated on the 27th; and thus one of the richest settlements of the Spaniards in South America fell into the hands of the British †. The importance of these acquisitions to the trade of England will perhaps compensate in some measure for the interruption the manufactures of Britain may meet with on the continent of Europe; and the capture of the last may lead to an extension of colonies, which the naval power of Britain alone is able to protect.

An attempt was also made during last year to emancipate the Caraccas from the Spanish yoke. The projector of this attempt and the commander of the expedition, was General Miranda, a native of New Spain. He sailed with a small squadron from New York, for this purpose, in the beginning of April; but on arriving on the Spanish main, he found, after a few ineffectual attempts, that his force was not equal to the magnitude of the object. By the latest accounts Miranda was at Barbadoes, soliciting aid from the British governor and admiral on the station, and his small band of volunteers had returned to Trinidad in the end of October.

From the prevalence of the French interest among the leading party in the United States of America, differences had arisen respecting the right which the British exercised of searching neutral vessels for contraband goods. These differences were further heightened by an American seaman being killed by a shot fired from his Majesty's ship Leander, at a vessel which refused to comply with the acknowledged rights. This affair occasioned a popular clamour among the Americans. The captain of the Leander was found guilty of murder by the Grand Jury of New York, and the President, Mr Jefferson, issued a proclamation for his apprehension. To hurt the commerce of Britain, a bill was passed by the Congress, prohibiting the importation of certain descriptions of British manufacture into America, under the penalty of confiscation. The bill was to take effect from the of But happily this restriction on commercial enterprise has not been of long continuance, mutual advantages having promoted arrangements equally the interest of both parties. A treaty of commerce has been signed at London by the plenipotentiaries of America; which now only wants ratification, which there is no reason to believe will be withheld; and the house of Representatives anticipating this conclusion, passed a bill on the 6th of Dec. to suspend the law regarding the prohibition of British merchandise and manufactures;—a law which, unrepealed, might have ended in consequences to be equally dreaded by both countries.

For the Parliamentary history of the last year the reader is referred to the department of the Scots Magazine appropriated to that description of national intelligence; where the debates in both Houses, and the principal arguments on each question, will be found amply detailed. Parliament was opened by commission on the 21st of January. A change in the executive government of the country having taken place soon after the commencement of the year; that change introduced several subjects to the attention of Parliament which gave rise to very important discussions. One of the chief of these was the new-modelling of the army, which was proposed by Mr Windham, one of the new ministers, to the House of Commons on the 3d of April. The principal features of this plan was the raising of men for a limited period, instead of inlisting them for life as formerly; a plan which, whatever may otherwise be its defects, is certainly better suited to the genius of a free people than a perpetual obligation, from which inability or death could only give relief.

The trial of Lord Viscount Melville by

† Vide Scots Mag. for 1806, p. 778.

by impeachment occupied for a considerable time the attention of both Houses. In the preceding session of Parliament, a number of resolutions had been hastily voted by the Commons against that nobleman, for his conduct during the long period he held the office of Treasury of the Navy. These resolutions were followed up in this Parliament by an impeachment; and the trial of Lord Melville commenced on the 26th of April in Westminster hall, which was fitted up in a handsome manner for that purpose. The particulars of this trial (which excited uncommon interest) will be found in the Scots Magazine for 1806 at considerable length. Lord Melville was however acquitted of all the crimes and misdemeanors laid to his charge, by a respectable majority, on the 12th of July; and on this occasion he was addressed, not only by the city he so long represented, but by many other public bodies in Scotland, in terms of the warmest congratulation.

The question of the Abolition of the Slave Trade, which has so often been in vain submitted to British humanity, was again brought before Parliament in this session. On the 9th of June, Mr Fox moved and obtained a resolution of the House of Commons, declaring the slave trade to be "contrary to every principle of justice, of humanity, and sound policy;" and pledging themselves to take every possible measure for its speedy abolition. An Address was on this occasion presented to his Majesty, requesting him to concert with foreign powers the means of abolishing for ever this inhuman traffic.

In the House of Lords, on the 18th of June, a series of resolutions were brought forward by Lord Grenville regarding the Administration of Justice in Scotland. These resolutions proposed, that the Court of Session should be so far altered, as to be divided into three chambers of concurrent jurisdiction, each consisting of five Judges, with power to decide upon facts by juries; that the Judgment of any one chamber may be revised by the remaining ten judges sitting in a Court of Review; and that appeals shall be to the House of Lords only from the final judgment of this latter court. How far this proposed alteration in the highest civil court in Scotland may be for the better, time will decide. The multiplicity of business before the Court of Session, the delay connected with it, and the very expensive mode of carrying it on, most certainly called for redress; and however hard the proposed alteration may press upon individuals, there is reason to hope that, when duly modified, it may prove of advantage to the country in general.

Various matters of less general interest were brought before Parliament in this Session. Monuments were, on the 26th of January, voted to the memory of Lord Nelson, Captains Duff and Cook, who fell in the battle of Trafalgar, and the Marquis Cornwallis, both to be erected in St Paul's Cathedral; and 120,000l. was appropriated for the purchase of lands, to be settled on the family of Lord Nelson, as a lasting mark of national gratitude for his important services. An additional provision was also made for the younger branches of the Royal Family.

Nearly forty-nine millions were voted as the supplies for the United Kingdoms for the year; and among other taxes imposed to meet the exigencies of the State, that on property was raised to 10 per cent. Parliament was prorogued on the 23d of July. On the 24th of October it was dissolved by his Majesty, and a proclamation issued for assembling a new parliament to meet on the 15th of December. A list of the Scottish members elected to represent their country in the new Parliament, with a particular account of the election of the sixteen Peers, will be found in the Magazine for December 1806.

The progress of that national undertaking, the Caledonian canal, forms the principal feature of the domestic occurrences of North Britain during the last year. We are happy to state that the work is in considerable forwardness.—Upwards of L. 30,000 has already been expended upon it. The new lines of road and the bridges of communication thro' the Highlands have also been carried on with uncommon public spirit; and we may soon expect to see that division of the kingdom assume an appearance, and acquire an importance in mercantile speculation, very different from what it has hitherto done. For a plan and description of these two great national under-

dertakings, See Magazine for December 1805, and January 1806.

A new harbour has likewise, in the course of last year, been planned and partly executed at the village of Ardrossan, on the west coast of Ayrshire, as also a canal from the city of Glasgow, to pass through Paisley and fall into the sea at Ardrossan. These improvements, which will be of incalculable advantage to the trade of that flourishing part of the kingdom, have occasioned the formation of a new town at Ardrossan, of which the erection has in part taken place. The estimate of expence for the harbour amounts to L. 40,000. That for the Canal is computed at about L.112,000. A plan of the Canal will be found in the Scots Magazine for May 1806.

The new wet-dock at Leith, which forms part of an extensive range of similar works to be constructed, was opened with great ceremony on the 20th of May *. It was begun to be built in May 1801, and occupied nearly five years in finishing, the whole being within high water mark. The bason occupies a space of about five acres, and the walls are formed of immense stones bound together by chain-bars of iron. The other projected basons are to be erected to the westward, and are to extend to the village of Newhaven, where the water is deeper, and capable of admitting frigates and other large vessels. The plan of these extensive improvements, which are worthy of the sea-port of the capital of North Britain, was designed by Mr John Rennie, Engineer, and the bason already erected was finished under the superintendence of Mr John Paterson, architect. The expence of erection amounted to upwards of L. 100,000 sterling.

Among the plans for the internal improvement of North Britain, one has during the last year been projected, which has excited a considerable share of Public curiosity, and which, should it be found practicable, would much facilitate the intercourse between the districts situated on each side of the river Forth. The plan alluded to is that for forming a tunnel, or subterraneous communication, under the bed of the river, from the village of Queensferry on the south side to a place near Rosyth Castle on the opposite shore, a distance of about two miles. The projectors of this important work are Messrs Taylor and Vazie, who we understand have already obtained subscriptions nearly sufficient for making the necessary previous trials. We have already called the attention of our readers to this remarkable undertaking, and shall not fail as it proceeds to supply them with every information which may throw light on the practicability and advantage of the scheme.

In stating shortly the domestic occurrences of 1806, those only have been noticed which are of importance from their public nature.—The proceedings of the General Assembly of the Scottish National church will be found in the Magazine for last year, as well as accounts of the various provincial transactions, to which the reader is referred.

The obituary of 1806 contains the names of several men of the first eminence. Early in the year accounts were received of the death of Marquis Cornwallis, governor-general of India, at Ghazeepore, on the 5th of October 1805.—The Right Hon. William Pitt, first Lord of the Treasury, and Chancellor of the Exchequer, died at his villa of Putney, on the 23d of January 1806.—The Right Hon. George Earl of Macartney died on the 31st of March.—John Duke of Argyll, on the 25th May.—Lord Thurlow on the 12th of September; and on the 13th of that month the Right Hon. Charles James Fox, his Majesty's Secretary of State for foreign affairs. Scottish jurisprudence has lost a support by the death of the Hon. David Smyth of Methven; Surgery has to bewail her loss in Mr Benjamin Bell; Literature has to mourn the departure of Mrs Carter, Dr Chapman, and Professor Dalzell; and Humanity has to regret the loss of Mr David Dale and Sir William Forbes, two of her noblest ornaments.

* Vide Scots Mag. for 186. p. 395.

PRO-

Proceedings of Parliament.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

Monday, Dec. 22.

MR *Windham*, after an animated description of the importance of military character, now when Europe was an universal camp, moved the Thanks of the House to Gen. Sir John Stuart, and the army who gained the battle of Maida in July last. He stated, that this battle was more honourable to the victors than the official dispatches had stated it to be. The British troops were under 5000. The enemy, according to a return found in the pocket of one of the slain, were 8000; and in the neighbourhood there were 13,000 French troops. The enemy lost in the battle 1300 killed, and 1500 prisoners; many surrendered afterwards; so that the British army disposed of, in one way or another, more than their own number. The motion was unanimously agreed to.

Wednesday, Dec. 24.

Mr Biddulph made a motion relative to the Chairman of the Committees. He thought it extremely inconsistent that any Member of that House should receive a salary for the duty performed in it. The times were unusual, and the greatest saving was necessary. The House ought now to hold out such an example to the country: For, if the country was to be saved, it must be by a radical change of measures. He then moved a resolution, that the assignment of a salary to any Member of the House, as Chairman of the Committee of Ways and Means, is unnecessary.

Lord Howick felt it necessary to support the pledge contained in his Majesty's speech relative to economy; but he could not agree to the resolution. The office was not one to which rigid economy could apply. The Hon. Gent. was in an error; there was no such appointment as he stated, with any fixed salary; for at the end of the session, the House voted a sum to the Gentleman who sat in Committees, and performed that laborious duty.—If any measure was fit to be adopted, it was that of opposing the vote at the end of the year of the sum to this Officer. The motion was negatived.

Monday, Dec. 29.

The House resolved into a Committee of Supply, Mr Hobhouse in the chair, in which Mr Grenville moved several votes for the naval service, the same as last year, viz. 120,000 men for the sea service, including 29,000 marines; 2,886,000l. for their wages for 13 months, at 1l. 7s. per man per month; 2,964,000l. for victualling; 4,680,000l. for wear and tear of ships; 390,000l. for naval ordnance. Total 10,920,000l. All these motions were agreed to.

Tuesday, Dec. 30.

On the motion of Lord Temple, a committee was appointed to consider the expediency of allowing the use of sugar in the distilleries and breweries. He stated, that there were now in the kingdom between 150,000 and 160,000 hogsheads of sugar. He said it was not proposed to exclude grain, but to allow the sugar a fair competition.

Thursday, Jan. 1.

Petitions, complaining of undue elections and returns, were presented from the following places:—Burghs of Glasgow, Renfrew, &c. from Boyd Alexander, Esq. ordered for consideration on the 17th of March. Burghs of Wick, &c. from Sir John Sinclair; ordered for consideration on the 26th February. Burghs of Linlithgow, &c. from Mr Maxwell of Carriden, complaining of bribery and corruption; ordered for consideration on the 17th March. The 26th of March was fixed as the last day for receiving private bills;—no such bills to be reported after the 11th of May.

A petition was presented by the Lord Advocate, from Henry Allan, flesher in Edinburgh, against the return of Sir Patrick Murray for that city. The petition complained that Sir P. Murray was ineligible, as he was Remembrancer of the Exchequer.—Ordered for consideration on the 26th of March.

Mon-

Monday, Jan. 5.

The order of the day for taking the papers relative to the late negociation into consideration having been read, *Lord Howick* entered into a comprehensive detail of the progress and termination of the negociation, and ably defended the British Government from the charges of the French Emperor, on the one hand, of having been insincere in their professions of desiring peace, and from the accusations of the opposition in Parliament, on the other, of having been the dupes of French state craft.—He said there never was, at any period of the negociation, the power of obtaining terms such as could have been acceded to. Previous to Lord Yarmouth's arrival from France, no particular terms had been specified; then came the proposition of the *uti possidetis*. But from this the French government immediately receded, both with respect to Sicily and to other objects. Nothing, however, was distinctly offered until after the signature of D'Oubril's treaty. At that time Lord Yarmouth stated, that Hanover, the Cape, Malta, and India, remained pure and untouched. Soon, however, the rejection of the basis operated with a vengeance. The French negociator declared that his master would not surrender Pondicherry, Surinam, Tobago, Goree, Berbice, Essequibo, &c.—Malta too was to be subject to the payment of certain pensions, &c.; the British garrison to be limited in force: besides the tenure of Malta would have become quite insecure from the loss of Sicily, on which that island depends for its provisions. For Hanover, it was proposed by the French, that we should take the principality of Hoya; the Cape was to become a free port, that is, England was to pay the expences of the establishment, and other nations to derive the advantages of it. Independently, therefore, of the violation of faith, these were terms which Great Britain could not accept. She could not agree to abandon Russia and Sicily.—The King of Sicily was to have been dethroned, and Great Britain to provide for his subsistence. Could any man, with feelings truly English, say that these were terms to which his Majesty's ministers could have listened?—On the 4th of September, after the information of the non-ratification of the Russian treaty had reached Paris, a great change took place, and they were disposed to go much farther; they were willing to give up Hanover without deduction, Malta without restriction, the absolute sovereignty of the Cape to Britain, Pondicherry, Chandernagore, Tobago, &c.

These were better terms, but they were far from the original basis. Yet, such as they were, they were to be at the price of abandoning Russia and Sicily. Had they been infinitely more advantageous, at such a price they ought not to have been purchased. On the 7th of September, the Sunday preceding Mr Fox's death, when there appeared to be rather a favourable turn in the negociation, anxious as that man was for the restoration of peace, he declared that there were three objects, without the acquisition of which peace ought not to be concluded: 1st, The maintenance of the honour of the country—the second was the preservation of our connection with Russia—and the third was the re-establishment of the King of Sicily. It was on these two last points that the negociation had been broken off; and he solemnly declared to the House, that this rupture was in strict conformity to the sentiments of that illustrious statesman, who, in the most severe moments of his illness, stated it to be the ardent wish of his mind to accomplish, before his death, two great works on which he had set his heart—the restoration of peace, and the abolition of the slave trade. His Lordship concluded by moving an address in the usual form.

Lord Yarmouth defended his conduct from the charge which had been made against him in another place, of having produced his full powers, contrary to his instructions, before he had obtained from the French a written acknowledgement of the basis of the treaty. He stated that the negociation could not have gone on without his having shown his powers, as no French minister was allowed to treat without that formality, and therefore, if he had had such instructions, which he denied, they would have been unavailing. He considered that the terms which might have been obtained by this country were highly advantageous, and such as ought not to have been rejected for the two objects of keeping Sicily for King Ferdinand, and obtaining the evacuation of Dalma-

tia

tia for Russia. He doubted whether Russia herself set such a value on these objects, and on our alliance, as we had done, as it was certain that M. D'Oubril, though he had not been authorised to conclude the disgraceful treaty he had signed, yet he was empowered to negociate separately. His Lordship, however, supported the address.

Mr Montague was of opinion, that Mr Fox and the ministry had been duped by Talleyrand during the whole negociation.

Sir T. Turton was of opinion, that the negociation was too hastily broken off. He did not think that ministers were warranted in putting an end to it on the ground of the alliance with Russia.—When the Emperor Alexander refused to ratify the treaty made by D'Oubril, it was not on account of any engagement entered into with this country, but because the terms of that treaty did not adequately provide for the interests of Russia. Had they been of a contrary nature, it was clear, from the language of that court, that the alliance with this country would not have formed any serious obstacle to its ratification.

Mr Whitbread went at large into the history of the negociation, as it appeared in the documents before the House; and censured, in the severest terms, the conduct of ministers in breaking it off. He contended, that, after the death of Mr Fox, they no longer sought peace in the spirit of peace. In the terms to which France was ready to assent, the honour of this country was abundantly consulted, because those very points were conceded, on which, in a moment of passion, the Chief of the French government had declared his determination never to yield. Our interests would have been secured to a much greater extent than could have been reasonably expected, considering the uniform success of the arms of France on the continent. He could not find the basis of the *uti possidetis* any where admitted by the French government. Their rising in their demands after the treaty with D'Oubril was perfectly natural, and would have been imitated by this or any other country in similar circumstances. Considering the apprehensions which France entertained of the designs of Russia against the Porte, it was not to be wondered at, that she should not acquiesce in the demands of that power with regard to Dalmatia. The restoration of Sicily, which seemed a *sine qua non* with us, had been departed from by Russia, who was willing to stipulate for a compensation for his Neapolitan Majesty. From the best view he could take of the whole transaction, we had broken off the discussions for Russian objects, in the contemplation of a new coalition. He deprecated the intemperate language which he heard applied to the conduct of France. It was not certainly upon the theatre of the present war, in the heart of Poland, that the powers contending against France should raise their voices to accuse her of injustice, spoliation, and rapacity.—And certainly, when we considered our own conduct in the east, we could not with justice accuse our enemy on the score of injustice and atrocity. Let us for a moment place ourselves in the situation of the French government, and then judge of their disposition for peace by the terms which they repeatedly offered. He concluded with proposing an amendment, which was read from the chair. It stated, in substance, the resolution of the House to assist his Majesty in calling forth all the resources of the country, if necessary, to enable his Majesty to prosecute the war with vigour; at the same time exhorting his Majesty to declare his readiness to afford every practicable facility to the restoration of peace, on terms consistent with good faith to his allies, and with the honour and interests of his people.

Mr G. Johnstone seconded the motion, which was rejected without a division.

Mr Canning and *Mr Percival* argued that the whole negociation had been conducted with too great looseness on the part of the British ministry, and that throughout they had been duped by their adversaries.

Lord Howick made a very able reply to different parts both of Mr Whitbread's speech and Mr Percival's; saying, it was a strong presumption that ministers had acted right, when one class blamed them for not making peace, and another for having been too eager to do so. The address was then carried unanimously.

Wednesday, January 7.

Mr Calcraft, in a committee of supply, informed the House, that the ex-

penses in the ordnance department were much less this year than in the two preceding. This arose from the reduction of various expenses, and the resisting of new projects respecting works to be erected; the expenses, therefore, next year would be 600,000l. less than last year. Many expenses would also cease, such as the lines at Chatham, fortifications on the southern coast, &c. He then moved 301,406l. for deficiencies in the ordnance for 1805; 262,365l. for ditto in 1806; 2,278,197l. for the ordnance for 1807; and 479,240l. for ditto for Ireland. Agreed to.

Thursday Jan. 8.

Mr Hobhouse brought up the report of the Committee of Supply, granting various sums for defraying the charges for the Ordnance of Great Britain and Ireland for 1807.

Mr Johnstone said, there was a sum of 50,000l. for gun powder sent to the island of Ceylon, which he could not help thinking a very unnecessary expence, as that island could be much better and more frequently supplied with ammunition from the East India Settlements. There was also a sum of 10001. charged to the army in Great Britain for turn-screws and worms for the soldiers muskets; whereas the sum charged for the same purpose for the army in Ireland amounted to 7000l.

Mr Calcraft replied, that with regard to the gun-powder sent to Ceylon, it had been transmitted in the same way as ammunition was sent to all foreign settlements, by an order from the Secretary of State. The fact was, that a large quantity of powder had been sent to that island on account of the badness of the powder found there. On enquiry, it had been found, that powder as good, and much cheaper, could now be obtained from the British Settlements in India, and, of course, that the practice of sending powder to Ceylon from England would be discontinued. With regard to the second question of the Hon. Gentleman, he was not exactly prepared to give an explicit answer; but he rather was inclined to believe that the 1000l. charged to the army in Great Britain had been charged annually, while the same charge for the army in Ireland had fallen into arrear.

Monday Jan. 12.

Lord Castlereagh wished to ascertain whether, as he was informed, the new military system had not weakened, instead of strengthened, our regular force, and injured the internal defence—the volunteer system. He therefore moved for monthly returns of the strength and distribution of the forces of every description, from the 1st of March 1806; also of the number of recruits procured in 1806, and by what means.

Mr Windham objected to produce an account of the distribution of the force, as that would convey intelligence to the enemy. He had no objection to produce the amount, as of that he had no apprehension. In the course of the conversation he stated, that the civil details of the training act, such as taking lists, &c. were completely finished; and the Privy Council had actually begun to make arrangements for the purpose of having the training act put into execution in such districts of the kingdom as it might seem adviseable at present to select. The motions were then amended according to the suggestions of Mr Windham, and agreed to.

Gen. Gascoigne asked Lord Howick, whether the non-importation decree passed in the American Congress, had or had not been annulled since the signing of the treaty with that country? It was most desirable to know whether the merchants could export with safety the goods prohibited by that law, and which, according to that law, would be confiscated. He did not mean to ask what were the terms of the treaty; he only wanted to have some explanation as to whether the letter of the noble Lord to the merchants at Lloyd's did imply that the trade to which he alluded could be carried on. (*See p.* 68.)

Lord Howick said, no man could be more desirous than he to answer any question in which the commercial interests were concerned; but this question he could not answer. He knew not how far the letter written by him, announcing the signature of a treaty with America, might have made an impression on the country; but he would now say, that, if that treaty should be ratified, the American non-importation act would fall to the ground (*A cry of hear! hear!*) In answer to a question put some evenings ago by Mr Percival, as to any reservation being made in the treaty respecting the blockade decreed by the ene-

enemy against this kingdom, he could say, undoubtedly some reservation would be made: and his Majesty would have a right to use the same means against the commerce of other nations with the enemy, as the enemy had used against us.

Tuesday, Jan. 20.

Sir Thomas Turton asked Lord Howick, whether, in the treaty with America, his Majesty had reserved the right of proceeding against the American commerce in the same way as other neutrals, and whether he had reserved to himself the right to blockade the French islands, if this rigour should be necessary? The second question related to the issue of money to Russia. He understood that about 3 or 400,000*l.* had already been ordered to that country: he wished to know under what vote of the House that money was issued? His third question related to the lately-captured settlement of Buenos Ayres: He wished to know whether the ministers were in possession of any accurate information with regard to that settlement.

Lord Howick said, that he could only repeat what he had said before, that the country would not be prevented by the American treaty from distressing the enemy, by employing, with respect to neutrals, whatever measures might be necessary to retaliate upon them. The abstract right to blockade the enemy certainly would not be abandoned. But how far it might be necessary or politic to exercise that right, must be left to the discretion of his Majesty's advisers. With respect to the issue of money to Russia, it was the balance due to Russia under the treaty already concluded with that power. As to Buenos Ayres, all he would say on that head was, that the letters which had been published, contained all the material information that Ministers possessed.

Mr H. Thornton presented a petition from the directors of the Sierra Leone Company, praying for relief from the charge of that establishment. Referred to a private Committee.

A list of such British ships as had been captured by the enemy, and without being recaptured, were registered as British, was ordered. It was stated that the enemy could not get half the money for these ships in their own ports, as they procured for them when in British ports and registered.

Wednesday, Jan. 21.

Sir J. Newport brought up a bill for amending the Irish Corn Intercourse bill, which was read a first time. It provided that the powers of the said act should only extend to grain of the growth of England and Ireland exclusively.

In a committee on the army estimates, Mr Windham's military plans produced a long discussion. Lord Castlereagh was the leader of opposition, and he contended, in a long speech, that they had totally failed of their great effects promised by their author. Mr Windham answered all his Lordship's objections with his usual ability. He insisted, that instead of having failed, the plan had succeeded to the full extent of his expectations; that it would be productive of many more men, and at a cheaper rate than any former system; and that it was better calculated for the interest and comfort of the soldier, and the good of the country, than any plan which had hitherto been adopted. In the course of the debate, Ministers were blamed for not having sent out reinforcements to Buenos Ayres, the moment that they heard of the expedition being undertaken. They stated, in reply, that reinforcements had been sent out as soon as transports could be procured. The Resolutions were agreed to.

Friday Jan. 23.

The *Lord Advocate of Scotland*, after a prefatory speech, in which he entered into an historical detail of the various regulations relative to the stipends of the Scottish clergy, and in which he expressed the highest regard for that respectable body of men, moved for leave to bring in a bill to suspend for a certain time the powers granted to the Lords of Council and Session in Scotland, by an act of the Scottish Parliament, in the 4th Session of the first Parliament of Queen Anne, so far as they went to the augmentation of the stipends of the clergy in Scotland. His view was, that, during the suspension those stipends should be rendered adequate to the purpose for which they were originally intended.

The House having gone into a Committee of Supply, Mr T. Grenville proposed a vote of 10,000 seamen for the Navy, in addition to the 120,000 already

ready granted for the service of 1807. He also stated the outline of a new plan, which it was intended to follow in future, in making up the various accounts relative to the British Navy; by which the expenditure incurred under each particular of timber, cordage, &c. would be separately laid before Parliament.—Various resolutions were voted, under the following heads of Estimates:—Wages, 240,500l.; Ordnance, 32,500l. Ordinaries, 1,155,434l. 0s. 2d.; Building and extra Works, 2,134,903l. Transports, 1,500,000l.; Sick and Wounded at home and abroad 300,000l. Prisoners of War, 500,000l.

A motion by General Porter, with respect to Mr Cawthorne's continuing to sit as a member of the House, after having been expelled in consequence of the sentence of a Court Martial in 1796, produced another from Lord Howick, which was agreed to, for the appointment of a Committee to search the Journals and Records of Parliament for precedents of cases in which Members, having been expelled, were thereafter returned and served in Parliament.

Mr Cawthorne said, he had hoped the Hon. Member would have advanced some arguments, and produced precedents which were applicable to the present motion. For his own part, he felt confident that he rested on the firm basis of the law of the land, and believed it to be the general rule of the constitution of this country, that no man, though found guilty of any charge brought against him, can be punished twice for the same crime. He thought he stood now in a very different predicament to what he did when he was last before the House on this subject, and that precedents should at least be produced to shew, that a Member once expelled should not be intitled to sit in a future Parliament. He had never heard of any such precedents; but, on the contrary, the cases of Mr Wilkes and Sir Robert Walpole were directly in his favour.

Monday, Jan. 26.

The Lord Advocate of Scotland brought in a bill for suspending the Powers of the Judges of the Court of Session in Scotland, for enlarging the Salaries of the Clergy in Scotland, which was read a first time.

Lord Folkestone, after some preliminary observations, moved for the printing of certain transactions in India, in which the Marquis Wellesley was concerned, principally respecting the affairs of Oude.

Lord Howick and *Sir John Anstruther* wished the Noble Lord to fix a definite period when he should bring forward the charges, as it was extremely desirous that the charges hanging over the Noble Marquis should not be allowed to remain suspended for a length of time.

Tuesday, Jan. 27.

The *Lord Advocate of Scotland* moved the order of the day, for the second reading of the Scots Clergy bill.

Mr William Dundas highly approved of the bill. Since the publication of the intention to alter the form of proceeding in the Court of Session, the Clergy had been running a race in order to obtain augmentations before the new regulations should take place. This occasioned disputes between the Clergy and the Heritors. The Court of Session had power to give augmentations till the tythes were exhausted. As there were so many applications, he thought that the evil ought to be remedied, and some repose given to the Clergy to attend to their duty for eighteen or twenty years.

Mr Percival observed, that if this was the true state of the case, it formed an argument, not only for this bill to suspend the powers of the Court of Session, but also for the proposed regulations: for if that Court exercised its power for granting augmentations blindly and without consideration, it was a good reason why it should be deprived of it. And if the Clergy shewed such improper greediness, certainly they ought to be restrained. He was sorry, however, to hear this character of them, for he had before understood that the Clergy of Scotland were a most respectable body of men, against whom there was less ground of reproach than almost any other class whatever. The House was not in a situation, however, to decide upon these points, and, therefore, this could not be any argument in favour of the bill at present. But, in addition to this, it would be hard to stop suits already

ready commenced; and, therefore, if there were a great many suits of this sort pending, this was rather an argument for not suspending the powers of the Court of Session.

Mr William Dundas, in explanation, denied his having expressed any distrust of the Court of Session, or having said any thing disrespectful to the Clergy of Scotland. What he said was, that some repose was desirable for the Clergy.

Mr Horner said, that he understood this bill to be brought in, not in the spirit of hostility to the Court of Session, but the contrary, for it was intended as a relief to them. The power to grant augmentations belonged to the Members of the Court of Session only as Commissioners. It was not a business that came under their jurisdiction as a Court of Justice, but properly of a legislative nature. This business had lately much increased, and it was proper that the Court should be relieved. He highly complimented the clergy of Scotland, who were distinguished for their piety and good morals. Their emoluments, he said, were very inadequate to their station, and to the duties they had to perform.

The Lord Advocate disclaimed any distrust of the Court of Session, or any disrespect to the Clergy of Scotland.—It was his pride to be descended from a family, which the Clergy of Scotland, who were eminent for their learning, piety, and morals, had always looked up to as their firmest friends. The object of the bill was to relieve the Court of Session from a press of business of this nature. No less than 149 suits for augmentations had commenced since July last.

After some further conversation between Mr Ruthwen, Mr Wm. Dundas, Mr Percival, Mr Sturges Bourne, and the Lord Advocate, the bill was read a second time, and ordered to be committed on this day se'ennight.

Thursday, Jan. 9.

Slave Trade.

Mr Wilberforce moved, that the resolution of the House, adopted on the motion of Mr Fox in the last session of the late Parliament, relative to the abolition of the slave trade, be now read from the journals. It was accordingly read.

Mr Wilberforce then said, in consequence of that resolution it might naturally have been expected that some measure would, before this time, have been brought forward by the friends of that object; the reason why he had not brought forward any measure on the subject, was the bill pending in another House of Parliament for that purpose. But if the proceedings of the other House should go to any considerable length on the bill, he should feel it his duty, if not anticipated by some other Member, to bring forward some measure for rendering effectual the resolution of the last Parliament, for abolishing a traffic, declared by that resolution to be contrary to justice, to humanity and sound policy.

Lord Howick perfectly agreed with the Hon. Member on the necessity of following up the resolution of the last session. The House owed it as a duty to its own honour and dignity, to carry that resolution into effect with the least possible delay. It was a sacred legacy bequeathed to them by that great and illustrious character upon whose motion it was adopted; and if there appeared any likelihood of extraordinary delay in the progress of the measure now pending in another House, it would be the duty of that House to bring forward some effectual measure upon this subject.

NEGOCIATION WITH FRANCE.

Papers presented to Parliament by order of his Majesty.

(Continued from p. 64.)

No VII.

Downing-Street, April 21. 1806.

Sir,

"I received, the day before yesterday, the dispatch of your Excellency, of the 16th. After having examined the contents with all due attention, I do not find therein any argument of sufficient force to induce our Government to abandon the opinion it has already adopted, viz. that any negociation to which Russia should not be a party would be rejected. We are desirous of peace, but of no peace which would compromise the dignity of our Sovereign, or the honour or interests of the nation. If we were to negociate without the concurrence of Russia, to which we are so closely united, we should consider ourselves justly liable to reproaches, for not adhering to that scrupulous fidelity in our alliance, which we deem the glory of the British nation.

nation. When we require that Russia should be compromised in the proceedings, we only act on that principle of reciprocity which we ourselves should expect from that power.

"Should the plenipotentiaries of the three powers be assembled, how is it feasible to suppose that any advantage will be gained on our side by the plurality of voices? or that there can be any similarity between the meeting of such parties and a General Congress? In fact, there can be but two parties, the one is France, the other the two allied powers. Besides, if you conceive that such material advantages would result from the joint assistance of two allies, it would be only necessary that you should yourself select some one of your own aims to cooperate with you.

"We sincerely desire to avoid needless controversy, and I shall not enter into any discussion with your Excellency regarding the conclusion you draw from the events of the last campaign. I will only remark, by the way, that I do not see why any alliance should be considered ineffectual with respect to the power acceding to it, because one of the parties to it has been separated by the calamities of war. With respect to the overture you advert to from Russia, we know nothing regarding it; but whatever it may be, we are convinced that that power will do nothing derogatory to its honour character, or to weaken the bonds of amity and confidence subsisting with England.

"To recur to the material questions—Your Excellency says, that there are three forms in which the discussions can be conducted; yet you say that the first stated is inadmissible. After what I have already written, you ought to conclude that the third is equally repugnant to our notions of justice and honour, and to our views of the interests of our country. The second is, perhaps, not objectionable as to the principle, but, independently of the delay it would occasion, it is not, at the present moment, practicable.

"It is, therefore, with much concern, that I explicitly declare, that at this time I do not discover any prospect of peace, should your Excellency not be disposed to treat in the form that we have already proposed. I shall now add, that this is an essential preliminary, not only for the reasons I have had the honour to explain to your Excellency, but because any other mode would generate the suspicion that you entertain the chimerical design imputed to you (unjustly, I would believe,) to exclude us from all connection with any power on the continent of Europe; and that this idea is less revolting to us than it is, or ought to be considered. It is not necessary to employ argument to convince a Minister, so enlightened as you are, that England would never consent to an exclusion which would degrade her from the rank she has hitherto maintained, and that she expects always to support among the nations of the world.

"In fact, the affair is reduced to a single point. Will we negociate jointly with Russia? Yes! Do you wish that we would treat separately? No! If we have not succeeded in the desirable object we proposed to ourselves, we have at least the satisfaction of congratulating ourselves on the politeness and frankness which has characterised the two Governments in the conduct of the affair; and I ought to express my personal acknowledgements to you for the kind expressions your Excellency has used respecting me.

"I have the honour, &c.

(Signed) "C. J. Fox."

No. VIII.

Sir, *Paris, June 9*, 1806.

"I have shewn to the Emperor the last letter your Excellency did me the honour to write me. I can only repeat to you, under his Majesty's orders, that to treat with you on the footing of your alliance with Russia, would be to place us in a situation of restraint and humiliation to which we have never been exposed; no power can flatter itself that it can dictate to France, either the conditions of peace, or a mode of negociation not sanctioned by established custom. To require either the one or the other, would be to derogate from the French character, and no more could be expected, if you had already invaded Belgium with an English army, and were prepared to penetrate into Picardy, by the mouths of the Somme.

"Ought I to repeat to you, Sir, that his Majesty is sincerely desirous of peace, when on all occasions in which the negociation has been interrupted, this disposition has been manifested? Is it necessary for me to say, that the prolongation of the war has never been injurious to the honour and glory of France; or to affirm that in time of peace, a great nation can, in no way, more wisely employ its forces than in preserving its relative dignity with respect to its neighbours? France would not deny to you the right you enjoy of chusing and preserving your alliances. In war, she has not the privilege of chusing her enemies, and she must fight with them, either separately or combined, as it may suit them to concert their projects of aggression and resistance, and to form connections so little suited to sound policy, that the first article of concert was to keep the co-operation a profound secret.

"Be-

"Because, in this predicament, we are anxious to abide by the forms of negociation which have been respected in all ages and by every country, you conclude, that we are solicitous of depriving you of every alliance on the Continent. I do not believe that, in any part of our conduct, we have justified such a conclusion. It is not for us to prevent your contracting such friendships as you may think fit with other Governments, as we cannot indulge a wish to effect what is either unjust or absurd.—But it is one thing to form alliances which are agreeable to you; it is another thing, that we should concur in them, and aid you in contracting them. Therefore, to consent to treat on the principle of those alliances, and to admit them in the discussions on the interests, direct or intermediate, which occasion our differences would be more than to admit them, and acknowledge them: it would be to consecrate, to commit to sanction them, and to guarantee their validity. I have already said, that we cannot conclude upon this point, because the principle is with us.

"To avoid all misunderstanding, I think it is my duty to propose to you—1. To negociate according to the same preliminary forms which were adopted under the administration of the Marquis of Rockingham, in 1782; forms, indeed, which were not so happily revived in the treaty of Lille, but which had complete success in the negociation that preceded the treaty of Amiens. 2. To establish, as the ground of the negociation, two fundamental principles: the first I obtain from your letter of the 25th of March, viz. 'that the two nations should have for their leading object, a peace, honourable for each and for their allies; at the same time, that the peace should have a tendency to secure by its terms, as much as possible, the future repose of Europe.' The second is 'a mutual concession with respect to right of intervention and guarantee in the affairs of Europe, both continental and maritime.'—His Majesty not only has no objection to make such an avowal, but he is even desirous to establish it as a principle: and in thus declaring to you his real intentions, I think I am giving you a decisive proof of his pacific inclinations. His Majesty hopes, that in thus excluding all subject of complaint and uneasiness, he has done, on a subject which interests materially the cause of humanity, what is due from him both as a man and as a Sovereign Prince.

"It would be with particular reluctance that I should witness the termination of a discussion which has been projected under such favourable appearances; yet, at least, I should possess one source of consolation,

that the failure of it is not to be attributed to France, since she has required nothing but what is just and reasonable."

"I have the honour to be &c.

"C. M. TALLEYRAND."

No. IX.

Downing-street, June 14. 1806.

SIR,

"I have received, some days ago, the dispatch of your Excellency, dated the 2d of the present month. I do not conceive how, in treating with Russia, and as commonly, you have to recognize the principle of the alliance between her and us. At most, you only recognize the fact. Still less can I divine how this mode of treating supposes you in a state of inferiority. We by no means pretend to impose upon France either the relations of peace, nor a mode of negociating contrary to its usages. In 1782, an epoch which your Excellency cites in your dispatch, we did not consider ourselves in a state of degradation; nevertheless, when M. de Vergennes told us it was necessary for the honour of his Court, that we should treat with her conjointly with Holland and Spain, we adopted, without thinking we degraded ourselves in any manner, the mode to which that Minister appeared to attach so much value. Your Government wishes sincerely for peace; here it is equally desired, and I may nevertheless say of England, what your Excellency says of France, that the prolongation of a war has never been prejudicial either to its glory or its greatness: perhaps it has to its real permanent interests, but equally so to those of France.

"As to whatever there is of secrecy in our treaty of alliance with Russia, your Excellency is too enlightened not to acknowledge, that as far as regarded the war and the propositions to be made to Prussia and Austria, the secrecy was necessary.—All that is over. To act in concert for the purpose of obtaining repose for Europe in the first place, and for preserving it afterwards, is the principal, and I may say, the only object of our connection.

"After the frank manner in which you disavow the intention that has been wrongfully imputed to you, with respect to what regards our continental connections, there can no longer exist the slightest doubt upon this most essential object; and it would be more distressing, that difficulties which regard the form more than the substance, should cause a war to continue which the two Governments wish to terminate. Let us come to what your Excellency proposes. The form which took place in the Administration of the Marquis of Rockingham, is the more present to my recollection, as

I then hold the same post with which his Majesty has been lately pleased to honour me. Let France and England change positions, and it is precisely what I have proposed. We then treated with France and her allies. Let France now treat with us and our allies. The basis offered in your second proposition is perfectly conformable to the views of our Government; it being well understood, that while we mutually acknowledge our respective rights of intervention and guarantee for the affairs of Europe, we agree also mutually to abstain from every attack on the States which compose it, whether more or less powerful.

"I should not have less regret than your Excellency at this discussion being finished Provided we shall be able to act in such a manner, that nobody can reproach us for being wanting in good faith to an ally that, from every consideration, deserves an intire confidence on our part, we shall be content; and the more so, because we know that an honourable peace would be no less conformable to the wishes of Russia, than to those of France and England.

"I have the honour to be, &c.

"C. J. Fox."

No. X.

"Sir,

"I write two words to you to inform you that I am perfectly satisfied with the wishes that you have again expressed for peace. Lord Yarmouth besides has my entire confidence. Every thing which he shall mention to you, you may consider as proceeding from myself. Time presses.—Accept my best wishes. C. J. Fox.

"*London*, 14th *June* 1806."

No 11. is the powers given to Lord Yarmouth, written in the Latin language.

No 12. is the translation of the same.—They differ in nothing from the usual powers given on these occasions.

No XIII.

"The undersigned Plenipotentiary of His Britannic Majesty thinks it necessary, before he enters upon the negociation actually pending between his Sovereign and the Court of France, briefly to retrace the circumstances which have produced it.—In the mean time, he considers it as becoming that frankness and sincerity, which as Plenipotentiary of his Britannic Majesty, he is determined to practise, to declare that the principle which France herself originally proposed is the only basis on which he can consent to negociate, as well as to define the nature of the discussion on which he is ready to enter.

"The strong and energetic language that the French government employed, three months since, to express its desire of peace, while it inspired his Majesty with a confidence in the sincerity of the Court of France, caused no small degree of regret, that the proposition to treat with him, and separately from his allies, appeared to prevent both France and England from profiting of this favourable disposition of their respective Governments, as it would be impossible for his Britannic Majesty, unless he swerved from that good faith which he has always manifested, to treat otherwise than in conjunction with his ally the Emperor of Russia.

"Since that time, when his Majesty found that intervening circumstances, which it is not necessary to detail in this place, allowed him to engage in a separate treaty, it was with great pleasure that he received the proposition to treat generally, on the basis of the *uti possidetis*, to be scrupulously observed, except in the case of Hanover, which it is proposed should be ceded to his Majesty without any reserve.

"This proposition, it is true, was not made in a direct way, nor by the channel of any accredited Minister; its authenticity, however, could not admit of the least doubt.

"Independent of the authority which it received from the character of the person employed to communicate it, it appeared to be in perfect agreement with that which had been previously offered.—'The Emperor does not entertain a wish for any of the possessions of England.'—Such an avowal made at the very beginning of the correspondence between the two Courts, was the natural prelude to such a proposition.

"His Majesty regarded the cession of Hanover as a proof of the spirit of justice in which the proposition had been conceived, because this Electorate, though it was occupied upon a supposed identity of interests and measures, passed in effect for nothing, in the differences which occasioned the present war; and he viewed, in the principle till then recognised as the general basis of negociation (a basis particularly adapted to the relative situation of the two parties) what he considered to be a proof, that France was as sincerely disposed as Great Britain to put an end to an order of things equally prejudicial to the interests of the two countries.

"In fact, it appeared to his Majesty to be the only principle on which the negociation could be brought to a happy conclusion. From the nature of those interests in which the respective parties participated, it could not be expected that a satisfactory arrangement could be made, in the way of reciprocal restitution, by the restoration of their respective acquisitions: while,

while, on the other hand, the principle of the *uti possidetis* naturally presented itself as offering the means of putting an end to the unfortunate hostilities between the two nations, both of which are in possession of extensive and important conquests, both as to territory and influence: France on the Continent of Europe, and Great Britain in the other parts of the world.

"This fact appeared still more striking to his Majesty, on considering that both nations had assumed an actual possession in their respective acquisitions, which could not experience any material alteration from the continuance of the war: the superiority of the naval force of Great Britain being, according to all appearances, no less firmly established on the sea, than that of the army of France on the Continent of Europe.

"It was under the impression which those reflections naturally produced, that his Majesty most willingly accepted the proposition for treating on the new principle of the *uti possidetis*, with the reservation due to the subsisting connection with the Emperor of Russia; and as a proof of his sincerity, he made choice of the person by whom the communication had been made, to announce the alacrity with which he acceded to the basis proposed for the conclusion of a treaty. The undersigned is by no means disposed to conceal the satisfaction his Majesty has derived from the pleasing prospect of speedily restoring the blessings of peace to his subjects on just and equitable principles, and which are conformable to the honour of his Crown; nor of the regret he experienced when, at the very moment his Majesty had acceded to the principle offered for his acceptance, that principle was suddenly abandoned by the demand to evacuate and restore Sicily—a demand which has not been modified in any other way than by projects of indemnity to his Sicilian Majesty, which were equally insufficient and inadmissible.

"This demand, so incompatible with the avowed principles on which the two parties treated, would have justified the putting an immediate conclusion to the negociation; but the anxiety of his Majesty the King of Great Britain and Ireland to concur with his ally the Emperor of Russia, and to ensure to his subjects the blessings of peace, induced him to receive every other new proposition which might be made to procure to his Sicilian Majesty, in exchange for Sicily, a real and satisfactory equivalent. No proposition of this nature having been yet made, the undersigned declares, that he cannot consent to treat on any other principle than the *uti possidetis*, as originally proposed to his Sovereign by the Court of France. In the mean time, he expresses his wish that it may be perfectly understood, that the adoption of this principle will not prevent him from listening to any proposition for a just and satisfactory indemnification to his Sicilian Majesty for the cession of Sicily, nor from accepting any proposal for an exchange of territory between the contracting parties, on principles of justice, and such as may tend to the reciprocal advantage of the two countries.

"The undersigned conceives, that since the *uti possidetis* has been proposed by the Court of France, peace has been concluded between France and the Emperor of Russia, and consequently that the relative situation between the two countries is no longer the same. On the contrary, he must also observe, that since that time France has acquired new advantages by the comprehensive changes which she has made in the constitution of the Germanic Empire;—an arrangement, the anticipation of which had been submitted to the Court of Great Britain as a powerful motive for the immediate conclusion of peace on the basis of the *uti possidetis*. If, then, this principle appeared just and reasonable before, it cannot fail at present, according to its own views of the object, to be still more favourable to the interests of France than of the British Empire.

"The undersigned thinks it necessary to observe, that although France may look forward to other acquisitions on the Continent of Europe, his Majesty the King of Great Britain and Ireland may, with equal justice, have similar views in other parts of the world, and which will be of infinite importance to the commerce and strength of his empire; and consequently, that he cannot, consistently with the interests of his people, or the honour of his crown, negociate upon any principle of inferiority, either declared or supposed. He cannot treat upon any other footing than the presumption that a continuance of hostilities is equally disadvantageous to both parties. There can be no reason whatever to suppose that the conquests which his Majesty proposes to keep by the peace could be taken from him by the war, and the undersigned must presume the best proof that can be given of the equity of the basis on which it is proposed to treat, must be found in the circumstance, that they were offered by France, on the opening of the communication which has produced the mission wherein his Sovereign has employed him conjointly with Lord Yarmouth.

LAUDERDALE."

"*Paris, Aug. 6. 1806.*"

(*To be continued.*)

Great Square, his gallant little army falling fast by shots from invisible persons, and the only alternative which could present itself, to save the useless effusion of so much valuable blood, was a flag of truce, which was hoisted at the castle about one o'clock.

In an instant, near 10,000 men in the Great Square, pressed forward in the most outrageous manner, to get into the fort, and even fired at our men on the ramparts; so much so, that it was with extreme difficulty the British troops were prevented from revenging this insult: Indeed the General was obliged to tell the Spanish officers, if their men did not retire in the course of one minute, he must, as the only measure of safety, haul down the flag of truce, and recommence hostilities: this firmness had the desired effect, and he then sent his conditions to the Spanish General, and they were instantly acceded to.

I inclose a copy of the capitulation, and I trust the high and independent language in which it is couched, and the terms dictated by General Beresford to an officer at the head of myriads of people, will do him infinite honour in England, and obtain for him his Majesty's most gracious approbation of his conduct.

I have received and annex a return of the killed, wounded, and missing; by which it appears, that there are two officers, two serjeants, one drummer, forty-three rank and file, killed; eight officers, seven serjeants, ninety-two rank and file wounded; and nine missing; making a total of 165; and scarce any of these misfortunes were occasioned except from the inhabitants on the tops of the houses and the churches.

The enemy confess to have lost about 700 killed and wounded, in the short conflict in the streets; and if it had not been for the inhabitants, I little doubt that the Spanish troops would have been completely defeated, altho' seven times the number of the British forces.

Nothing is more difficult than to give their Lordships an idea of the number of men in arms; but from the best accounts we can obtain, it is thought Pueriden, and the other principal people engaged in this plot, had collected from eight to 10,000 men in the country; that Liniers may have brought over from 800 to 1200; and the town furnished, though armed in various ways, about 12,000, under the secret arrangement of the magistrates.

When every vessel that could escape from Buenos Ayres had joined, I proceeded towards Ensenada, to retire the detachment of marines; Lieut. Groves of the Diadem was obliged to quit the Belem Schooner, as she would not work out; one gun-boat and a settee, a prize, were also left in the harbour, with the Justina, a small English merchant ship, that had followed the expedition from St Helena. Captain Thompson of the Neptune, who was in the castle, was made a prisoner; and Lieut. Burgh, of the Raisonable, with Mr Ramsay, a midshipman, and seven men who were in the settee, as her boats could not hold them. Lieut. Herrick, in the Dolores, the other armed schooner, worked out in a manner which, coupled with his conduct in the whole of this business, does him great credit.

On the 13th, in the morning, the detachment of marines, under the command of Lieut. Swaile, was embarked from Ensenada, and has two Spanish field pieces spiked and thrown into the river.

On the 14th I sailed for this anchorage, where I arrived the following day, and immediately addressed the Governor of Monte Video on the subject of our troops.

On the 16th, in consequence of receiving, by Colonel Liniers' Aid-de-Camp, a letter from General Beresford, I dispatched two of the transports to Buenos Ayres, where one arrived on the 17th, but from the prevarication of the Governor of Monte Video, in the first instance, and his subsequent dishonourable conduct, no troops have yet been embarked.

Whilst I had the honour of being on board the Leda, I had every reason to be satisfied with the zealous attention of Captain Honyman, his officers and ship's company; and I cannot but express my extreme approbation of the conduct of all the officers and seamen, who were constantly employed in the small vessels and boats, under almost every privation, in the very severe and trying weather which we experienced the last ten days.

I most sincerely regret, however, that my situation has imposed on me the painful duty of making this report to their Lordships, especially as it is done

done principally from materials collected from different people, which they probably, in many instances, deducted from vague and uncertain conclusions. If, however, it should hereafter appear, that I have failed in any instance to do ample justice to the conduct, energy, and prowess of General Beresford, and the officers and soldiers under his command, it has been owing to the limited scale of my communications since the 12th, from the extreme jealousy of the enemy, and not from any indisposition to appreciate their merits in the most liberal manner; a sentiment which I have held on every occasion, and publicly marked it in all my former dispatches.

I have the honour to be, &c.

H. POPHAM

The following are the terms agreed upon for the surrender of the Fort of Buenos Ayres on the 12th of August:

CAPITULATION.

Fort Buenos Ayres, Aug. 12. 1806.

The British General having no further object for remaining in Buenos Ayres, and to avoid an unnecessary effusion of blood, as also the destruction of the property of the inhabitants of this city, consents to deliver up the Fort of Buenos Ayres to the Commander of his Catholic Majesty's forces, on the following conditions:—

1st, The British troops to march out with all the honours of war, to be considered as prisoners of war, but to be embarked as soon as possible on board the British transports now in the river, to be conveyed to England, or the station whence they came from.

2d, The British, on their entrance into this place, made many Spanish prisoners of war, which remained on their parole, and as the number of officers is much greater on one side, and of men on the other, it is agreed that the whole shall be exchanged for the whole, the English transports returning to the places of their destination as cartels, and to be guaranteed as such by the Spanish Government from capture on the voyage.

3d, Provisions, &c. will be furnished for the passage of the English troops, according to the usual custom in like cases.

4th, Such wounded of the British troops as cannot be removed on board of ships shall remain in the hospitals at Buenos Ayres, either under charge of Spanish or British Surgeons, at the option of the British General, and shall be furnished with every thing necessary, and on their recovery sent to Great Britain.

5th, The property of all English subjects in Buenos Ayres to be respected.

(Signed) W. C. PUMEFORD.

SANTIAGO CONSTITUDO LINIERS.

General Return of Killed and Wounded, at Buenos Ayres, from 10th to 12th August 1806.

Killed.—Royal Engineers, Capt. G. Kennet.—Royal Artillery, 6 privates.—St Helena Artillery, 9 privates.—71st regt. Lieut. Wm. Mitchell, 1 serjeant, 1 drummer, 24 privates, 5 more wounded since dead.—Royal marines, 7 privates.—St Helena regt. 1 serjeant, 2 privates.

Wounded.—Royal Artillery, Capt. Ogilvie, Lieut. Macdonald, 2 privates.—St Helena Artillery, 1 serjeant, 13 privates.—71st regt. Lieut. col. Dennis Pack, Lieut. T. Murray, Ensigns Gamrell, and Thomas Lucas, (since dead,) 5 serjeants, 60 privates.—Royal marines, Capt. Mackenzie, 1 serjeant, 5 privates.—St Helena regt. Lieut. Sampson, 5 privates.—Tot. killed 58; wounded 127.

Statement of Property captured at Buenos Ayres, but not removed, and re-captured on the 12th of August.

	Dollars.
Goods of the Philippine Company.	100,000
Debts due to ditto,	1,511,547
4000 Arob. B. Tobacco (at 6 dollars) sold for 14,	24,000
200 ditto Parly ditto,	12,000
50,000 reams paper, (2 dollars)	100,000
Playing Cards	50,000
5000 Quintals of Quicksilver, (40 dollars)	200,000
4000 lbs. Spanish Snuff, (2 dollars)	80,000
20,000 lbs. Havannah ditto, (2 dollars)	40,000
37,500 lbs. Bark (1½ dollar)	56,250
	1,673,797
Vessels and Floating Property.	1,500,000
	3,173,797

Note

Historical Affairs.

Recapture of Buenos Ayres.

WE feel much regret in announcing this month the recapture of the important settlement of Buenos Ayres by the Spaniards, and that Gen. Beresford and his brave little army had been obliged to surrender prisoners of war on the 12th of August, after being only six weeks in possession of the place. Rumours of this disaster had reached England, by the way of Lisbon, early in December, but they were not generally credited. The London Gazette of January 27, however, ascertains the truth of this unpleasing intelligence, upon the authority of official dispatches from Commodore Sir Home Popham, to the Lords of the Admiralty, of which the following are the contents.

His Majesty's ship Diadem,
Rio de la Plata, August 23, 1806.

Sir, When the events of war cease to be favourable to any armament, I consider it the duty of Commanding Officers to state all the circumstances under their knowledge or information with clearness and perspicuity, which, either progressively or suddenly, lead to a reverse of fortune.

In pursuing this course, I feel confident I shall be able to satisfy the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, that the liberal and beneficent principles upon which the Government of General Beresford was conducted, do more honour to his Majesty's arms, and the character of Great Britain, than if he had resorted to expedients, completely within his power, which would have effectually annihilated all the efforts of the enemy, and wrested, probably for ever, these countries from the Crown of Spain.

Pueridon, one of the municipality, appears to have been the greatest organ of the revolution. He applied himself, with great art and address, in preparing the people for a general insurrection.

The arms in the town were secreted ready for the moment of action, the discontented assembled every night, and attended to his instructions, and he raised all the rabble of the country by the ample supplies of money with which he was furnished on the north side of the river. Colonel Liniers, a French Officer in the Spanish service, and on his parole, successfully employed himself in collecting people at Colonia.

Terror was established, and every person who refused to contribute his assistance to this conspiracy, was threatened with immediate death.

I have traced this from very unquestionable authority; and so rapid was the progress of the revolution when it first shewed itself, that it was not till the 31st of July that I learned, by a dispatch from the General, which reached me at Ensenada, on my return from Monte Video, that he was apprehensive, from the information he received, an insurrection would shortly be made.

I heard at the same time from Captain Thomson, that seventeen of the enemy's vessels had just arrived at Colonia; and as it was reported that force was still to be increased from Monte Video, I sent orders for the Diomede to be brought to Ensenada, and for Captain King, of the Diadem, to come up with the remaining few marines, the two companies of Blues, and as many other men as could, in any degree, be spared from the ships, for the purpose of arming some vessels to attack the enemy at Colonia, as it was impossible to prevent his crossing from the north shore whenever the wind was fair.

On the 1st of August, in the afternoon, the Leda anchored off Buenos Ayres, about twelve miles distant; and on my landing on the 2d, which I did as soon as the weather would admit of a boat getting on shore, I found the General had just made a very successful attack on about 1500 Spaniards, under Pueridon, five leagues from the town, with 500 men, in which he took all the enemy's cannon, (I think nine pieces) and several prisoners.

On the 3d, I attempted to return to the Leda, in the Encounter, which Capt. Honyman brought within a few miles of the shore for this purpose, as it blew

very strong, but the wind freshened so considerably from the eastward, that we could not get to windward.

On the 4th, in the morning, it was very thick weather, and the gale encreased so much, that it was impossible to weigh.

About noon, Captain King arrived in a galivat, with 150 men from the Diadem, for the purpose of arming and commanding the few small vessels we had collected in the harbour; but he was not able to get there till the following day.

On the 5th, in the morning, it moderated, and I reached the Leda, when I learned from Captain Thomson, that in the gale of the preceding day, the enemy had crossed from Cadiz, totally unobserved by any of our ships, except the schooner under the command of Lieut. Herrick, who was lying in the narrow gut leading to Conchas and St. Isidro; but the easterly wind had thrown so much water in the river, that the enemy were enabled to cross over any part of the Patmas Bank, without the necessity of making a greater detour by going higher up the river.

On the 6th and 7th it blew a hurricane; the Leda was lying in four fathoms, with two anchors down, and her yards and topmasts struck.

On the 8th I heard from Captain King, that five of our gun boats had foundered at their anchors; that the Walker had lost her rudder, and that the launches and large cutters of the Diadem and Leda were lost.

The torrents of rain that fell during the 6th, 7th, and 8th, had rendered the roads totally impracticable for any thing but cavalry; and consequently, General Beresford was most seriously disappointed in his determination to attack the enemy at a distance from the town; in which, had it taken place, I entertained no doubt, that his army would have added another trait of its invincible spirit under his dispositions.

The enemy, however, by his inexhaustible supply of horses, suffered little inconvenience from the state of the roads, and he was, therefore, enabled to approach the town by several directions, without giving the British army an opportunity to attack him.

On the 10th, in the evening, the Castle was summoned, and on the following day, I landed, while our remaining vessels were firing on the Spanish posts and I learnt that, exclusive of the Spanish army, which was divided into many columns, occupying the various avenues of the town, the inhabitants were all armed, and sheltered on the tops of the houses and churches, with a design of carrying on a war of ambush.

Under these circumstances, and the manifest disposition of the enemy to prevent an engagement, it was determined to embark the wounded that night, and cross the Rio Chello, for the purpose of moving towards Ensenada; but this measure was in a great degree frustrated by the weather, which became very violent during the night, and consequently retarded the progress of embarkation, though the enemy added a considerable number of men to the houses and churches, near the castle; and advanced by all the streets not under the influence of its fire; in short, Sir, his object was to avoid, by every means, a general action, and to place his men in such a situation that they could fire at our troops while they remained in perfect security themselves.

On the 11th at daylight, I understand a smart fire began from the enemy's advanced posts, but was soon returned with great effect from our artillery, which was planted towards the principal streets leading to the great Square, and for a short time the enemy, by his immense numbers, shewed a greater degree of firmness, than on any other occasion, and pushed forward with three pieces of artillery, which Colonel Pack, of the 71st, soon charged and took from him. During this time, however, reinforcements crowded the tops of all the houses commanding the Great Square from the back streets, and our troops were soon considerably annoyed by people they could not get at. The enemy commanded the Castle in the same way with the additional advantage of a gun on the top of one of the churches, which I consider an indelible stigma against the character of the Bishop, not only from his situation, but the professions he made.

I can easily conceive how the feeling of General Beresford must, at this moment, have been on the rack; disappointed in his last efforts to induce the enemy to a general engagement in the

Great

Great Square, his gallant little army falling fast by shots from invisible persons, and the only alternative which could present itself, to save the useless effusion of so much valuable blood, was a flag of truce, which was hoisted at the castle about one o'clock.

In an instant, near 10,000 men in the Great Square, pressed forward in the most outrageous manner, to get into the fort, and even fired at our men on the ramparts; so much so, that it was with extreme difficulty the British troops were prevented from revenging this insult: Indeed the General was obliged to tell the Spanish officers, if their men did not retire in the course of one minute, he must, as the only measure of safety, haul down the flag of truce, and recommence hostilities: this firmness had the desired effect, and he then sent his conditions to the Spanish General, and they were instantly acceded to.

I inclose a copy of the capitulation, and I trust the high and independent language in which it is couched, and the terms dictated by General Beresford to an officer at the head of myriads of people, will do him infinite honour in England, and obtain for him his Majesty's most gracious approbation of his conduct.

I have received and annex a return of the killed, wounded, and missing; by which it appears, that there are two officers, two serjeants, one drummer, forty-three rank and file, killed; eight officers, seven serjeants, ninety-two rank and file wounded; and nine missing; making a total of 165; and scarce any of these misfortunes were occasioned except from the inhabitants on the tops of the houses and the churches.

The enemy confess to have lost about 700 killed and wounded, in the short conflict in the streets; and if it had not been for the inhabitants, I little doubt that the Spanish troops would have been completely defeated, altho' seven times the number of the British forces.

Nothing is more difficult than to give their Lordships an idea of the number of men in arms; but from the best accounts we can obtain, it is thought Pueridon, and the other principal people engaged in this plot, had collected from eight to 10,000 men in the country; that Liniers may have brought over from 800 to 1900; and the town furnished, though armed in various ways, about 10,000, under the secret arrangement of the magistrates.

When every vessel that could escape from Buenos Ayres had joined, I proceeded towards Ensenada, to retire the detachment of marines; Lieut. Groves of the Diadem was obliged to quit the Belem Schooner, as she would not work out; one gun-boat and a settee, a prize, were also left in the harbour, with the Justina, a small English merchant ship, that had followed the expedition from St Helena. Captain Thompson of the Neptune, who was in the castle, was made a prisoner; and Lieut. Burgh, of the Raisonable, with Mr Ramsay, a midshipman, and seven men who were in the settee, as her boats could not hold them. Lieut. Herrick, in the Dolores, the other armed schooner, worked out in a manner which, coupled with his conduct in the whole of this business, does him great credit.

On the 13th, in the morning, the detachment of marines, under the command of Lieut. Swaile, was embarked from Ensenada, and has two Spanish field-pieces spiked and thrown into the river.

On the 14th I sailed for this anchorage, where I arrived the following day, and immediately addressed the Governor of Monte Video on the subject of our troops.

On the 16th, in consequence of receiving, by Colonel Liniers' Aid-de-Camp, a letter from General Beresford, I dispatched two of the transports to Buenos Ayres, where one arrived on the 17th, but from the prevarication of the Governor of Monte Video, in the first instance, and his subsequent dishonourable conduct, no troops have yet been embarked.

Whilst I had the honour of being on board the Leda, I had every reason to be satisfied with the zealous attention of Captain Honyman, his officers and ship's company; and I cannot but express my extreme approbation of the conduct of all the officers and seamen, who were constantly employed in the small vessels and boats, under almost every privation, in the very severe and trying weather which we experienced the last ten days.

I most sincerely regret, however, that my situation has imposed on me the painful duty of making this report to their Lordships, especially as it is done

done principally from materials collected from different people, which they probably, in many instances, deducted from vague and uncertain conclusions. If, however, it should hereafter appear, that I have failed in any instance to do ample justice to the conduct, energy, and prowess of General Beresford, and the officers and soldiers under his command, it has been owing to the limited scale of my communications since the 12th, from the extreme jealousy of the enemy, and not from any indisposition to appreciate their merits in the most liberal manner; a sentiment which I have held on every occasion, and publicly marked it in all my former dispatches.

I have the honour to be, &c.

H. POPHAM.

The following are the terms agreed upon for the surrender of the Fort of Buenos Ayres on the 12th of August:

CAPITULATION.

Fort Buenos Ayres, Aug. 12. 1806.

The British General having no further object for remaining in Buenos Ayres, and to avoid an unnecessary effusion of blood, as also the destruction of the property of the inhabitants of this city, consents to deliver up the Fort of Buenos Ayres to the Commander of his Catholic Majesty's forces, on the following conditions:—

1st, The British troops to march out with all the honours of war, to be considered as prisoners of war, but to be embarked as soon as possible on board the British transports now in the river, to be conveyed to England, or the station whence they came from.

2d, The British, on their entrance into this place, made many Spanish prisoners of war, which remained on their parole, and as the number of officers is much greater on one side, and of men on the other, it is agreed that the whole shall be exchanged for the whole, the English transports returning to the places of their destination as cartels, and to be guaranteed as such by the Spanish Government from capture on the voyage.

3d, Provisions, &c. will be furnished for the passage of the English troops, according to the usual custom in like cases.

4th, Such wounded of the British troops as cannot be removed on board of ships shall remain in the hospitals at Buenos Ayres, either under charge of Spanish or British Surgeons, at the option of the British General, and shall be furnished with every thing necessary, and on their recovery sent to Great Britain.

5th, The property of all English subjects in Buenos Ayres to be respected.

(Signed) W. C. BERESFORD.

SANTIAGO CONSIDIDO LINIERS.

General Return of Killed and Wounded, at Buenos Ayres, from 10th to 12th August 1806.

Killed.—Royal Engineers, Capt. G. Kennet.—Royal Artillery, 6 privates.—St Helena Artillery, 9 privates.—71st regt. Lieut. Wm. Mitchel, 1 serjeant, 1 drummer, 24 privates, 5 more wounded, since dead.—Royal marines, 7 privates.—St Helena regt. 1 serjeant, 2 privates.

Wounded.—Royal Artillery, Capt. Ogilvie, Lieut. Macdonald, 2 privates.—St Helena Artillery, 1 serjeant, 13 privates.—71st regt. Lieut.-col. Dennis Pack, Lieut. T. Murray, Ensigns Gaurell, and Thomas Lucas, (since dead.) 5 serjeants, 67 privates.—Royal marines, Capt. Mackenzie, 1 serjeant, 5 privates.—St Helena regt. Lieut. Sampson, 5 privates.—Tot. killed 58; wounded 107.

Statement of Property captured at Buenos Ayres, but not removed, and re-captured on the 12th of August.

	Dollars.
Goods of the Philippine Company, . . .	100,000
Debts due to ditto, .	1,011,547
4000 Arob. B. Tobacco (at 6 dollars) sold for 14, .	24,000
200 ditto Parly ditto, .	12,000
50,000 reams paper, (2 dollars)	100,000
Playing Cards . .	50,000
5000 Quintals of Quicksilver, (40 dollars) . .	200,000
40,000 lbs. Spanish Snuff, (2 dollars) . . .	80,000
20,000 lbs. Havannah ditto, (2 dollars) . . .	40,000
37,500 lbs. Bark (1½ dollar)	56,250
	1,673,797
Vessels and Floating Property, ...	1,500,000
	$3,173,797

Note

Note—No valuation is made in this statement of the Timber, Treasure in Treasury, Powder in the Magazine, and of Armoury and Ordnance Stores.

Diadem, Rio de la Plata, Oct. 9. 1806.

SIR,

On the 5th instant, off Lobes, we fell in with the Rolla, having a detachment of the 38th on board; she sailed from the Cape, in company with the Melanthon, which was to the westward of her. I took the troops out of the Rolla, and sent her to Rio Grande, for the purpose of purchasing flour and biscuit, and ascertaining whether any quantity of the latter could be baked there.

On the 6th we returned to this anchorage, where we found the Protector, with the Adamant and Columbine transports, having on board detachments of the 38th, and the Diadem victualler. I lost no time in ordering all the men of war to complete their provisions to three months, for fear of any accident happening to the victualler.

On the 7th, in the evening, the Medusa joined with four of the Lancaster's convoy; and Captain Bouverie reported, that the Lancaster was to the eastward with the remaining two ships, having the preceding night parted their cables. The Leda joined the same evening, and Captain Honyman reported, that he had detained a Danish ship, bound to Monte Video, having on board the Governor of Valdivia.

I intended to have dispatched the Wellington this evening, but Colonel Vassal particularly requested I would detain her till the arrival of the Lancaster, as Colonel Backhouse was a senior Lieutenant Colonel to himself, and, succeeding adventitiously to the command of the army, he would naturally be desirous of making a report to the Duke of York of the state of his force, and the arrangements he had made.

The weather was so hazy, and the current so strong to the southward, that the Lancaster did not join till the 12th, in the evening. On the following day, as it appeared to me that the Commanding Officer of the troops intended to make his first attempt on Monte Video, and was anxious to see that place, I directed Captain Rowley to take all the transports to Flores Bay, and proceeded on the 14th off Monte Video, and then to Flores, where he arrived on the 15th in the morning.

From the 15th to the 27th it blew so hard, that nothing could be attempted. On the 28th, in the morning, the wind was easterly, and every circumstance as favourable as possible to try the experiment; and as the pilots assured us a flat ran off from the rocks of the town for a mile, making precisely the same water along side of them as at that distance, I ordered Captain Edmonds, who very handsomely requested to remain till the experiment was tried, and to command the leading transport, not to attend to the ostensible orders of leading down in three fathom, but to haul in till he had small quarter less three, to ascertain whether the flat really run off as described or not. Captain Edmonds will explain the circumstance fully to their Lordships; he anchored as near the shore as he could for the safety of the frigates, and then was only within random shot, and therefore I would not let the Leda go down a second time; for unless the ships could have got well within point blank shot, there was no chance of making a breach for the army to land in the town. Although the enemy fired for more than an hour on our ships, in consequence of there being but little wind, I am happy to inform you that only one man was wounded.

As I now saw it was impossible to get close enough in, to make any breach in the south wall with men of war, I proposed to Colonel Backhouse to take Maldonado, which I should have attempted early in the winter, if the marines had not been left at Buenos Ayres.

Maldonado is an excellent harbour, where the fleet can water, and get bullocks, which now really become very necessary to recruit our men.

The island Gorreti, which forms the harbour of Maldonado, is very strong; and after the troops are landed to take the village, and the batteries on the sea coast in reverse, I shall propose to take the island by the Navy, provided it does not surrender to my summons.

I have the honour to be, &c.

HOME POPHAM.

The

The Gazette contains another letter from Sir H. Popham, dated Maldonado harbour, Oct. 30. stating, that in pursuance of his intention expressed in the preceding letter, Col. Backhouse being satisfied of the expedience of the measure, a part of the 38th regiment were put on board the Leda and Medusa frigates, and being supported by the Diadem, with the marines of the Medusa, and a company of Blues (seamen) from each ship, they effected a landing without much opposition, and took possession of the village of Maldonado at eight o'clock in the evening of the 29th. (In this attack the 38th regiment had two privates killed and four wounded.) Next morning the Commodore sent a summons to the Commander of the fortified island of Goretti, who accordingly surrendered on condition of his garrison being sent to Monte Video, with their arms and effects. They were immediately embarked, consisting of four officers and 104 men. Goretti is a very strong position, defended by four batteries of 20 24 pounders, and commanding the roadstead in every direction.

The Gazette also contains letters to the Secretary of State, from Lieutenant Colonel Backhouse of the 47th regiment, who sailed from the Cape on the 29th of August, with the first battalion of that regiment, the 38th, and 350 of the 21st dragoons, for the purpose of joining General Beresford at Buenos Ayres,—in which he expresses his mortification, on his arrival off Monte Video on the 2d of October, to find the city of Buenos Ayres recaptured, and Gen. Beresford and his army prisoners of war. The Colonel likewise gives an account of the unsuccessful attack upon Monte Video, and of the landing at, and taking possession of Maldonado, in nearly the same terms as the Commodore.

Such are the official accounts of this unfortunate event. Private letters by the same conveyance, the Wellington transport, and accounts from North America, state that the British squadron, consisting of four ships of the line and four frigates, were cruizing in the river la Plata, and had blocked up all communication with the city of Buenos Ayres. Both the fleet and the little army at Maldonado, (about 2500 men,) had been amply supplied by some victuallers from Rio de Janeiro. They were anxiously waiting the arrival of reinforcements from England, the first of which would be that under Sir Samuel Achmuty, who sailed from Plymouth on the 10th of Oct. with the 40th and 87th regiments, three companies of the 95th (riflemen,) and eight troops of the 17th dragoons, (in all 2700 men,) under convoy of the Ardent of 64 guns, Capt. Donelly, and the Resistance and Unicorn frigates.

If Colonel Crawford, who sailed from Falmouth on the 10th of November with 5500 men, and four sail of the line, be destined for the same quarter, (which, however, is only conjectured) the important settlement of Buenos Ayres may yet fall under the dominion of Great Britain.

Sir Home Popham and Captain King arrived at Weymouth in the Rolla, an American prize brig, on the 16th of Feb. and immediately set off for London. By his arrival we expect to be able to communicate in our next some further intelligence of our operations in South America.

On the first of December the Sampson man of war, Admiral Stirling, arrived in the river Plate, having on board General Grey, who is to succeed General Baird in the command at the Cape. Admiral Stirling carried out with him orders to supersede Sir Home Popham in the command of his Majesty's ships at the river Plate. It had been arranged by Admiral Stirling, that the Sampson should sail on the 13th of December for the Cape, with General Grey, and proceed from thence to England, as convoy from that settlement and St Helena. The Admiral proposed to Sir Home to take his passage in the Sampson, which he declined; but requested a transport, which the Admiral could not spare. He however accommodated Sir Home with the Rolla, which he had captured. As the Admiral had occasion for all the hands on board of her (twenty-five in number,) Sir Home Popham was allowed to procure as many men as he required to proceed on his voyage from other sources. When the men were procured, and the ship was nearly ready to sail, the Pheasant, one of Commodore Donnelly's squadron, arrived, and gave hopes that the Ardent

man

man of war and her convoy might be soon expected. In consequence, Sir Home Popham requested he might wait the convoy's arrival. A fortnight, however, having elapsed, and no farther account of it being received, Sir Home embarked on board the Rolla. The vessel set sail on the 27th of December, and arrived at Weymouth on Monday evening, February 16th, after one of the quickest voyages ever known.

The Sampson sailed, as was proposed, on the 13th of December from the Cape.

Before the expiration of the time allowed by the Spanish proclamation, for the sailing of several vessels from Monte Video, several American vessels were obliged to leave that port, or become captures, some of them being also liable to be taken by our cruizers. We understand there are about fourteen detained at Maldonado.

WEST INDIES.

Dreadful Fire at St Thomas's.

Letters from St Thomas's give a most afflicting account of a disaster (the third experienced there within two years) occasioned by fire. That part of the town which was destroyed in the same way two years ago, and had been rebuilt, was again found in flames at 12 o'clock on the night of the 3d December, which raged with unabated fury until nearly the whole was in ashes. The greater part of the inhabitants escaped with their lives, but had scarcely time to cloath themselves. It is stated that seven-eights of the whole property in the island has been thus unfortunately consumed, the value of which cannot at present be accurately ascertained; but it is supposed that it will be found to amount to nearly 300,000l. Sterling. The fire is attributed to a negro female, who had been imprisoned by her master.

The following particulars are communicated in a letter from the above unfortunate island to a merchant in Port Glasgow, dated Dec. 8.

"We have again to announce the painful news of a fire which has reduced all our stores to ashes. Between twelve and one o'clock of the morning of the 4th, it broke out from a rum retailer's shop, kept by a Mrs Connor, nearly opposite to the store where the fire commenced in 1804. The wind was northerly; and it communicated with great rapidity to the buildings on both sides of the street. The house of Mess. Hagart and M'Bean arrested the progress of the flames, after they had consumed all the stores on 15 water lots, occupied by the principal merchants in town, and all the rich shops on the opposite side of the street. They also destroyed upwards of 150 private houses; in short, this fire, in its devastation (but for the fortunate circumstance of so many people being ensured by the Phœnix Company,) would have been more calamitous than that of 1804."

Missionaries in India.

Advices have been received from the Baptist Missionaries at Serampore, in Bengal, to Feb. 6. 1806, and of them to March 14. Considerable additions have been made to the church lately. The number of natives baptized, from Jan. 1. 1805 to Feb. 6. 1806, is thirty-six, making the whole number of the baptized, with the list in the Periodical Account, No. 15. eighty-three persons. There are besides these many enquirers.—A church has been established at Dinagepore, of eighty members, over which Mr Fernandez is ordained as their pastor. Mr Carey expects two others to be soon constituted. A Mr Mayhir, who lives 700 miles up the country, and has lately joined the church with young Mr Fernandez, have arrived at Philadelphia on their way to Britain. The former intends to return immediately, and to attempt to introduce the gospel there; the latter is to reside some time in Britain, for improvement as a missionary.

The Mission at Serampore have published proposals for translating the Scriptures into Shanscrit, Mahratta, Gazzerattee, Orissa, Carnatta, Telenga, Burmah, Assam, Boehar, Tibet, and Chinese. These, with the Bengalee, Hindostanee, Malay, Tamul, and Cingalese, are the whole languages in India; and the Bible being already in the five last, no part of that vast continent will be destitute of the word of God in their own tongue. The College at Fort-William, and the Asiatic Society, patronize the undertaking; and the Bible Society of London, of which Lord Teignmouth

mouth is President, have voted 1000l. towards defraying its expence.

The Chinese translation is begun under the tuition of Mr Joannas Lassar, from Canton, Professor of that language, who was lately employed in correcting the official correspondence between the Portuguese at Macao and the Court of Pekin. He is now resident at the Mission-house at Serampore, and is teaching the language to three of the missionaries. Some part of the translation is already printed off, from characters cut in wood after the Chinese manner. The third and last volume of the Old Testament, in Bengalee, is at press.—The Gospel of Matthew is printed in the Mahratta tongue; and a minute account of the religion, manners, and customs of the Hindoos, derived from the Hindoo Shasters, and personal knowledge, for which Mr Ward has been collecting materials several years, will soon be published in one volume 4to. Mr Marshman is about to publish the Greek and Shanscrit languages compared.

Botany Bay.

We are concerned to learn that this settlement is in the utmost distress from a scarcity of provisions, and also the new settlement under Col. Collins at Van Diemen's land. On the 14th of February, Capt. Sladder of the Royal Marines arrived at the Admiralty from New South Wales, which he left on the 31st of August last, with the unpleasing intelligence. The following distressing account of this colony is extracted from a letter from an officer at Sullivan's Cove, dated August 4th.

"The Ocean brings you this.—Our situation is very bad, under many sufferings; we have had no rations served lately, nor none to serve. We have not a drop of spirits in the colony, and are very destitute of meat, bread, clothing, farming and building utensils—in fact, of every thing, even to a sheet of paper. The Lieutenant Governor of this colony is reduced to an allowance of two pounds of rotten pork, and one pound of flour per week; even at this rate, we have not a sufficient supply for one month." The Captain of the Ocean says, that he saw a merchantman going up the river when he was coming down, and he hopes she had supplies for the colony.

Switzerland.

In our last (p. 7.) we gave the details of a most singular and melancholy disaster, which happened in this country in Sept. last. The following are some additional particulars respecting this fatal *avalanche*, as the French term it.

"While other countries are swallowed up by political revolutions, our unhappy country seems to be destined to undergo some physical changes which threaten its ruin. Smaller falls of pieces of mountains, in the united cantons of Uri and Bern, preceded the great *avalanche* at Goldau. At present the finely cultivated plains around the Sempach Lake are threatened with being laid completely under water. Besides this hitherto luxuriant district, large fields are daily sinking below the waters, and the greatest part of the road round Sempach Lake is annihilated.—In some places the sunken ground is already seventy feet under water. We have had no accurate account as yet of the loss of the men and cattle, although travellers inform us it was immense.—The German cantons have also suffered very considerably. It is said that the Pfannenberg, which overhangs the town of Bregentz on the Bedenlake, has been rent asunder. The gap in it, which was four feet broad, is now forty feet in length. A second rent has been since made, and an earthquake was experienced."

War on the Continent.

Our intelligence of the operations of the belligerent powers is still very uncertain, confused, and contradictory.—In our last we inserted an article, which appeared in all the prints, and to which general credit was given, as it was stated to come from the Secretary of State's office in name of Lord Howick, mentioning that the Russians had obtained a great victory over the French, who had lost 40,000 men, and 80 pieces of cannon.—Notwithstanding the weight of authority under which this good news was announced, we regret much to find that we still want a confirmation of its truth, to the extent stated as above.

It is certain that a hard battle was fought on the 26th of December, near Poltusk, between the Russian army under

der Gen. Benningsen, consisting of 55,000 men, and four grand divisions of the French army, amounting to above 60,000 men, all directed by Bonaparte in person, and that the French were compelled to retreat, with the loss of 6000 men killed, and 6000 prisoners, and 70 pieces of cannon.—A number of French officers likewise fell, and Col. Segur, Bonaparte's own adjutant and aid-de-camp, was taken prisoner. An application was made for his exchange, which was refused, and he was immediately sent off to St Petersburgh.

The following are the official Russian accounts of the above battle, which were brought over from Mr Stewart, the British charge d'affaires at St Petersburgh, by an English messenger, who arrived at the Secretary of State's office in London, on the 6th of February.

Battle of Pultusk.

St Petersburgh, 23d and 24th December, O. S. 4th and 5th January.

His Imperial Majesty has received, by a messenger arrived from the army, the following dispatches:—

After an almost uninterrupted series of actions of outposts with the enemy since the 11th inst. (the 23d of Dec.) in each of which he was repulsed; the General of Cavalry, Baron Benningsen, with a part of the troops intrusted to him, as soon as he had occupied his position near Pultusk, was attacked by a corps of the enemy under Gen. Soult.—The engagement lasted three hours, and the enemy was driven off the field of battle with considerable loss.

On the 14th, (the 26th December) previous to his being joined by the 4th division under Prince Galitzin, General Benningsen was attacked by the enemy at eleven o'clock in the forenoon, by a considerable force, commanded by Bonaparte himself in person, who had under him the Field-Marshals Davouss and Lannes, and by a separate detachment under General Soult. The battle was bloody, and was continued even in the darkness of the night. At the commencement of the action, Marshal Davoust, with his division, consisting of 15,000 men, made a furious attack on our left wing, in order to penetrate to and obtain possession of Pultusk, which was situated behind it. Major-General Bagonaut, who defended the position with 4000 men, was compelled to give way to the superior numbers of the enemy; but the moment General Benningsen observed the falling back of this corps, he ordered it to be instantly reinforced by another from his right wing, under the command of Lieutenant-General Count Osterman. This manœuvre put a stop to the enemy's career.

The attack on our right wing was much more powerful. A strong body of infantry, commanded by Field-Marshal Lannes, directed by Bonaparte in person, pushed forward through the bushes upon our advanced guard, which was posted there to cover the wing, and made so furious an attack, that Major-General Barkelay de Tolly, who commanded the vanguard, found it impossible to repulse the attack. But as soon as he retired, and gave way for the masked battery, erected in his rear, to act, a few well-directed discharges having killed a considerable number, the progress of Field-Marshal Lannes's division was for some time stopped. It endeavoured, however, still to force a passage to the battery, and General Barkelay de Tolly was obliged to continue his retreat. At this moment General Benningsen ordered the whole of the right wing to face about, and to reinforce Barkelay de Tolly. Three battalions of the army of reserve were sent to his assistance, and immediately after, three more. Having thus checked the impetuosity of the enemy, and the fire of our artillery and musketry continuing without interruption, General Benningsen resolved to attack the enemy in his turn. For that purpose he gave orders to General Osterman, and directed the remainder of his infantry to move to the left wing, which he had strengthened with strong batteries, and twenty troops of cavalry. All the rest of the cavalry he ordered to be drawn up in the centre, with a view of making head, and keeping the enemy in awe.

The French fought with great spirit, and defended themselves desperately, but were at length compelled to yield to the bravery of the troops of your Imperial Majesty. They are totally defeated, and driven off the field of battle. The prisoners state that they had six thousand killed in the last action.

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With respect to our own loss, although it cannot, for want of time, be precisely ascertained, yet it certainly does not exceed 2000. Gen. Benningsen at present has only to add, that he cannot sufficiently praise the spirit, intrepidity, and perseverance, displayed by the troops of your Imperial Majesty.—Among various instances of gallantry he has to report the meritorious conduct of Major-General Coskin, who, with your Imperial Majesty's regiment of cuirassiers, and two troops of the dragoons of Kargopal, attacked a column of the enemy's infantry, consisting of three thousand men, prepared to cut off Major-General Bagonaut; and, notwithstanding the powerful co-operation of the batteries, under which it intended to execute the proposed coup-de-main, succeeded in effecting its total destruction. By these means, the attempt made by Bonaparte against the corps commanded by General Benningsen has been defeated, and a complete victory has been gained over the enemy.

Petersburgh, Jan. 6. N. S.

The most enthusiastic joy prevails here, in consequence of the late victory of the Russians. They have in Poland abundant supplies of every kind. The only thing wanting is money. A liberal subscription has been set on foot by the Russian nobility, and two millions of roubles have been already raised.—The war is universally and cordially approved of. The British merchants here subscribed 15,000l. The Emperor was much affected by this mark of liberality, and expressed his satisfaction in the most flattering terms.

Jan. 7. N. S.

Vasselschekoff, the courier, is just arrived.—We have beat the French in a masterly stile, leaving 4000 dead on the field, and taken about 6000 prisoners.—Bonaparte, with 60,000 men, had passed the Vistula, which he was in some measure compelled to do from the want of provisions in his army. On the 11th he advanced towards the out-posts, commanded by Osterman (of Beningsen's army) consisting of 55,000 men. Small skirmishes took place, and on the 11th, 12th, and 13th, the Russians continued to retreat back from the main body. On the 14th, (old style) the two armies made a stand in sight of each other, at a place called Salem. A village lay between the two armies, to which the French set fire, with a view to envelope the Russians in smoke, and thereby destroy their order; but Beningsen formed, with his body of reserve, a hollow square, and advanced unperceived, under cover of the smoke, with fixed bayonets, through his own lines, they making an opening for this purpose, and dashed with his quarre into the centre of the French line, turning at the same time both the French wings. Chaplitz, with six squadrons of cavalry, bore down the left wing of the French, and killed 2000 men. Kosen, with the yagers, also committed great havock on the French right wing. These successes being followed up by the main line, they drove the invincible Bonaparte, aided by his Gens. Davoust and Lannes, his prime Generals, 14 miles, and nearly back to Pultusk, the original situation of Benningsen's camp. When the courier came away they were still in pursuit, and most important accounts are hourly expected; and as the ice has appeared in the Vistula, it is supposed the pontoon bridges may be carried away, from which the most happy consequences may result. Kaminskoy is unwell at Grodno. Twenty regiments of Cossacks were in the action, who adopted and followed up Kaminskoy's general orders, and dashed, without discipline or order, into the very heart of the French artillery, and thereby throwing into confusion the only body that is considered formidable by the French, and which so dreadfully galled the Russians at Austerlitz.—The Cossacks and Baskiers are to be employed in this way; and Kaminskoy has said, that he will then answer for his infantry, as the French cannot stand the bayonet, as was clearly proved in Calabria. The Russian army shew great energy, and are in the best state of discipline, and well commanded.

On the other hand, the French, in their bulletins, claim the victory in a number of battles at Garnowa, Nasielsk, Lopaczym, Golymin, and Pultusk, and assert that the Russians have lost in them 80 pieces of cannon, 1,200 baggage waggons, and 12,000 men in killed, wounded, and prisoners. They state likewise an action at Soldaw on the

the 23d December, with a small army of Prussians of 6000 infantry, and 1000 cavalry, who were defeated with the loss of 500 prisoners, 2 standards, and 5 pieces of cannon; while they state their own loss at only 8 killed, and 20 wounded.

In the battle of Pultusk, on the 26th, however, their own account, though as usual artfully worded, shows, at least, that they have never been more successfully opposed in any engagement this war. It is too diffuse to give at length. It states in substance, that General Benningsen's army had assembled at Pultusk during the night; that at ten o'clock in the morning Marshal Lannes attacked his right wing; that the engagement was obstinate; and that after various occurrences the enemy was completely routed. That at one A. M. Marshal Davoust attacked the left wing of the Russian army posted at Golymin (they say under Gen Buxhovden, but the Russian account says Gen. Barkeley de Tolly;—(while M. Augereau took the enemy in flank;—that the fire was extremely hot;—that the Grand Duke of Berg made several successful charges;—that night coming on too soon, the battle continued till eleven o'clock, when the enemy retreated in disorder, leaving behind his artillery, his baggage, and a number of dead; and that all the enemy's columns retreated towards Ostrolenka. In the mean time, M. Soult, with his corps, had arrived at Matzon, but the horrible sloughs, the effects of rain and thaw, arrested their march, and *saved the Russian army from utter destruction.*

The French bulletins continue to state, that being masters of the greatest part of the Russian artillery, of all its positions, and having repulsed the enemy nearly 40 leagues, the Emperor had ordered the army into winter quarters. They next state their loss at 800 men killed, and 2000 wounded, but mention no prisoners. The truth of this statement may be doubted from the circumstance of so many officers having fallen in this battle.—Borrau, aid-de-camp to Marshal Bessieres, Voisin, aid-de-camp to Marshal Lannes, Curial, aid-de-camp to Gen. Suchet, and Gen. Feneroilles of the dragoons, were killed.—Gen. Rapp, the Emperor's aid-de-camp, Gen. Treilhard of the cavalry, Gen. Bouslard of the dragoons, Gens. Vedel and Claperede, and Cols. Barthelemy, and Semele, were wounded.—Marshal Augereau had a horse shot under him, and Marshal Lannes was grazed by a ball. M. Segur, camp marshal to the Emperor, having fallen into an ambuscade of Cossacks, was taken prisoner.

Such are the accounts of this general engagement, in which there is no doubt the advantage was on the side of the Russians.—All the latest accounts from the Continent agree in stating, that both the French and Russian armies had drawn back from each other, about the end of December, for the sake of obtaining provisions. The French army was cantoned round Warsaw, and the Russians were concentrated about 30 leagues to the eastward. Some smart skirmishes, however, were occurring occasionally at the French out posts, who were much harrassed, especially in the night, by flying bodies of Cossacks. The French had lost, in this petty warfare, a number of officers and men.—About the 20th of January, Gen. Victor, while on his way to Stettin in his carriage, with his aid-de-camp and a servant, was carried off by a body of 25 Cossacks, who were scouring the country.

Bonaparte returned to Warsaw on the 2d of January, and left it again about the 24th, for the purpose of visiting the cantonments. Some accounts say he was expected at Berlin.

Breslaw surrendered, on the 8th of January, to the French under Jerome Bonaparte, after a siege of two months, in which a considerable part of this beautiful city had been destroyed. Brieg had also surrendered, and Schweidnitz was invested.

The King and Queen of Prussia had left Konigsberg, and gone to Memel, as the French had taken possession of Elbing; and apprehensions were entertained that the French would immediately advance and attack Dantzick, as a number of the inhabitants had left the city.

The Russian commander in chief, Kaminskoy, and Gen. Buxhovden, had gone to St Petersburgh, to consult with the council of war as to the future operations of the campaign.

Lord Hutchinson was at Memel on the 4th of January; and had sent Basilico

lico the messenger to Vienna, with dispatches to the Emperor.

The French army under Gen. Mortier, consisting of 12,000 men, entered Swedish Pomerania on the 5th of February, and invested Stralsund. It is said this movement was unexpected, as Mortier gave out that he had been ordered to Poland.

The greatest discontent prevails in the territories of Hesse, Saxony, and Mecklenbourg, and troops have been ordered from Holland to keep the inhabitants from open insurrection. The city of Hamburgh was in the utmost distress, all trade whatever being at a stand, and every thing under the controul of the French Generals.

It has been repeatedly asserted by the French, but contradicted by the German papers, that the Ottoman Porte had declared war against Russia. We have no certain intelligence of such a circumstance, but something suspicious in her conduct may be gathered from the following article, dated Constantinople Dec. 9th.—"The expected English fleet, under the command of Admiral Louis, consisting of seven ships of war, arrived in the Dardanelles about the end of November, and the Admiral himself entered our port on the 30th of November, on board the Canopus. He was received by the Ottoman Ministers with the utmost distinction. A frigate and a brig are likewise here."

By private letters from Lord Collingwood's fleet, we learn that Adm. Sir John Duckworth, with the Royal George, the Windsor Castle, Capt. Boyles, and the Pompee, Sir Sidney Smith, had sailed to join Admiral Louis in the Dardanelles.

Naval Intelligence.

The Astrea frigate sailed from Portsmouth with Lord Hutchinson for Elsineur on the 20th November. The perils which she encountered, and the imminent destruction which for nine hours threatened to overwhelm her, and which, in fact, awaited her during the remainder of her voyage, are described with affecting minuteness in the following letter.

Elsineur, Dec. 1. 1806.

"After a most tremendous passage, no description of which can give any adequate idea of its horrors, the Astrea frigate arrived here, I may say, almost a total wreck. On Friday last, we made the Naze of Norway. We had the shore upon the larboard hand, a good breeze of wind, and were going at the rate of ten knots, when on a sudden one of the most terrible gales of wind broke upon us that the oldest seaman ever witnessed. Tremendous as the tempest was, the admirable discipline of the ship, and the alertness of our men, were able to meet it with every exertion, but the weight of the storm and its rapidity disabled our rigging considerably.

"We disengaged the vessel from the shore with infinite difficulty, and with the best preparations that precaution and seamanship could make—every man looking out; sounding continually, and the master and pilot as vigilant as our officers and men were strenuous and active—we escaped the Skaws, and got into the Cattegat. Here our confidence was somewhat restored; and the piercing cold and the furious gale that was blowing were scarcely inconveniencies. In this disposition, we were pursuing our course briskly, when, to our dismay, the frigate struck! We found ourselves upon a reef of rocks, perhaps those called the New Dangers, about three miles from the island of Anholt, and about nine miles from any other shore. We immediately hoisted signals, and fired guns of distress—but in vain—Not a soul from the shore put off to assist us in any way. Several vessels passed us, indifferent spectators of our distress, and insensible to every indication we made to them of our dreadful situation, —their crews were all callous as the reefs of rocks. All this time no effort was spared on board the Astrea that coolness and seamanship could devise.—The mizen and main masts cut away, the guns thrown overboard, as well as the stores and provisions to a considerable extent. Still the vessel laboured hard, and the water was rushing through her bottom in a degree that left no man the hope of being saved; before it gained considerably, a great quantity of the ballast was thrown overboard. At this awful moment, it was only a British man of war that could exhibit such a display of cool and sober heroism.

"The conduct of every man in the ship

ship was fine beyond all praise. Although impending death had levelled us all to a sentiment of equality, and though every man expected momentary engulphment, still not a voice was heard but the command of the officer; from one end of the ship to the other not a face betrayed fear. The miraculous efforts made by the crew, with all the pumps, kept the water from gaining wholly upon us; and while we were in the midst of all this exertion, to our astonishment, and to our horror in some respects, the ship floated!—Judge of our situation, lightened even to the loss of some of our ballast, with only the foremast standing, and the vessel so damaged in the bottom as that it required all the pumps to prevent the water gaining to a fatal increase upon us! In an incredibly short time, jury, main, and mizen masts rigged, though only a few could be spared from the pumps; and, as the wind was fair, we took a farewell of the reef that had been nearly so fatal to us; and at length exhausted almost to death, we arrived here this day. During the dreadful scene we have experienced, Lord Hutchinson and his suite were not inactive assistants. Now as the danger was, they were as composed under it as any person on board, though the expectation of safety was abandoned by all."

The Privy Council have finally pronounced upon the charges lately preferred against General Picton by Col. Fullarton, and decided that there is no real ground for the accusation thus preferred. The case of the girl who was put to the torture, however, remains to be re-argued in the Court of King's Bench.

The British and Foreign Bible Society (the Right Hon. Lord Teignmouth, president) has commenced a correspondence with the Archbishop of Moscow, with a view to the printing of the Scriptures in the Russian language. At present, it is said, Bibles are so scarce, that there is but one Bible to 16,000 Russians. The Society has also voted a considerable sum of money to some well-disposed persons in Denmark, who are printing 2000 Icelandic New Testaments, to enable them to add 3000 more to the number, and intend to assist them hereafter to print the whole Bible.

On the 19th February William Brown, a private in the marines, was brought before Sir Wm. Parsons, at Bow-Street, London, in chains, from Woolwich, charged on suspicion of having been guilty of the murder and robbery of Wm. Begbie, Porter of the British Linen Company at Edinburgh, on the 13th Nov. last. The prisoner inlisted at Sunderland, a short time after the murder. He was committed for further examination, but has since been discharged, no circumstances appearing to criminate him.

IRELAND.

The Roman Catholic Question, we are sorry to say, will certainly be brought forward this Session. On Monday Feb. 8. a meeting of the Catholics of Ireland, summoned by the Earl of Fingal, was held at D'Arcy's in Dublin, for the purpose of taking into consideration the propriety of petitioning the Imperial Parliament for a complete Emancipation of his Majesty's Subjects, professing the Catholic Religion in Ireland. Upon the motion of Lord French, the Chair was taken by the Earl of Fingal, who informed the meeting, that he had been induced to request their attendance there, by a sense of what he deemed his duty, with the intent that they might, in a free, independent, yet dispassionate style, express their several opinions on a subject of the highest concern to the Empire at large, and of vital importance to Ireland. His Lordship finished by declaring, that he understood from the first authority, that Government meant to transmit to them an answer expressive of how far their application was likely to obtain the concurrence of the Executive.

Mr Keogh then rose, and after a speech of some length, concluded by moving:—

"That this is a fit and proper time to prefer a Petition to the Imperial Parliament, for the complete Emancipation of the Catholics of Ireland."—Which was carried unanimously.

Forty-one Gentlemen were immediately appointed to prepare and forward the same.

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Scottish Chronicle.

COURT OF SESSION.

AN action was lately brought against one of the Gentlemen prosecuted by a Member of the Association for the preservation of game in the county of Mid Lothian, and the Procurator Fiscal of the county, for the penalty of L. 100 Scots, imposed by the Act of Parliament 1621, for having killed game without the qualification of a plough-gate of land; and also, upon Stat. 13 of Geo. III. for having game in his possession.—And likewise, for a trespass for having encroached on the property of the Gentleman of the Association, in which the Sheriff decerned for payment of the statutory penalties, enacted by both statutes, and prohibited the defender from trespassing on the property of the private prosecutor in future. This judgement the Defender brought under review of the Court of Session, by Bill of Suspension, in which he contended, that the act of Parliament establishing a qualification to hunt and hawk, (whether *now* abrogated by contrary practice or not) did not apply at *any time* to *Winged Game*. He contended, that the Legislature never meant to comprehend people of his description, who had obtained liberty from a Country Gentleman to shoot upon any particular estate, as liable for the penalty merely for taking the benefit of such indulgence. He also contended, that it followed as a matter of course, that he was entitled to carry the game which had fallen by his hand, when enjoying the sport, as the British Statute applied only to common carriers, &c. He did not claim the privilege of traversing the property of other Gentlemen without their permission, therefore he did not complain of the inderdict. On the other hand, the prosecutors maintained, that the act of Parliament was in full force. The qualification to hunt was general, both in its application to the situation of the sportsman, and to the species of game alluded to. The bill, answers, and replies, came before the Lord Justice Clerk as Ordinary, in the month of June last, when his Lordship appointed the Bill Chamber proceedings to be printed, in order to be reported to the Court.—The Court took up the cause on the 17th Jan. last, and unanimously passed the Bill.

COURT OF EXCHEQUER.

Upon Wednesday, Jan. 28th, came to trial, in the Court of Exchequer, an information in debt, at the suit of his Majesty's Advocate General, against the Dumbarton Glass-Work Company, for duties withheld by them, upon the ground of an overcharge having taken place, by means of an erroneous mode of charging the duty on the metal and materials used by them in the manufacture of Crown Glass. After several witnesses had been examined on the part of the Crown, and after the opening of the defendant's case, and examining a few witnesses, Mr Solicitor General declared himself satisfied that an overcharge, to the amount of the sum retained by the defendants, had taken place, and consented that the Jury should return a verdict for the defendants. The Lord Chief Baron approved of the conduct of the Solicitor General in giving up the prosecution.

COURT OF JUSTICIARY.

On Monday Feb. 2. the Court proceeded to the trial of Alexander Taylor, apprentice to James Kerr surgeon in Paisley, and Matthew Smith, gardener, or weaver there, accused of the murder of an infant child. The circumstances of this case are of a very extraordinary nature, and it is difficult to discover the motives which could have induced Smith to perpetrate so horrid a crime. The indictment charged Smith with having taken or received from Agnes Kelly, on the street of Paisley, a female child, of between two and three months old: That he immediately carried the child to a garden in the neighbourhood of Paisley, and left it lying on the ground, while he went to the shop of Mr Kerr, and called on Taylor: That they then went back to the spot,

and found the child alive, when they did, both and each of them, or one or other of them, murder the said child, by squeezing its neck with their hands or otherwise, and putting its head under water. The proof was very clear against Smith; but it did not appear that Taylor knew the child was alive when he was called out by Smith, nor that he had any hand in the actual murder.—The Jury found Taylor *Not Guilty*, and unanimously found Smith *Guilty*. Taylor was therefore assoilzied and dismissed from the bar, after receiving a very suitable admonition from the Lord Justice Clerk. Smith was sentenced to be executed at Edinburgh on the 11th of March next. Taylor is a boy between 16 and 17, and Smith a lad of 26 years of age. He was much affected, and cried bitterly on receiving sentence.

The court met on Monday, February 16th, when Ensign James Livingston, late of the Stirlingshire militia, was outlawed for not appearing to answer to a charge of murder brought against him by his Majesty's Advocate. This charge is connected with a duelling transaction which occurred at Aberdeen about 18 months ago, and terminated fatally for one of the parties.

James Williamson, late prisoner in the tolbooth of Haddington, accused of theft, was also outlawed for not appearing to the charge.

The Court then proceeded to the trial of Corporal William Dreghorn, of the Stirlingshire militia, accused of murder or culpable homicide, by shooting a private of the Lanarkshire militia. The prisoner's defence resolved into a point of military law—that he had been violently assaulted and obstructed by some men belonging to the Lanarkshire militia, while he was on duty carrying orders from the officer commanding the detachment at Pennycuick, to the guard doing duty over the prisoners of war at Greenlaw House. The Jury returned their verdict, all, in one voice, finding the prisoner *Not Guilty*, whereupon he was assoilzied and dismissed from the bar.

Mr Boyle, after the Jury had delivered their verdict, stated that the prisoner at the bar, though pronounced innocent, had been for a long time confined in a room without a fire with some notorious criminals, some of them diseased, with whom he was to associate, and to sleep in the same bed with one of them. The Lord Justice Clerk stated, that it had long been in contemplation to build a new prison, for the better accommodation of the Prisoners, but the city could not afford to build a new prison without encroaching upon their funds. The prison was not merely for Edinburgh, but was in fact a National one—Delinquents from all parts of Scotland being brought there to be tried before the High Court of Justiciary, and also prisoners were brought sometimes to wait till an opportunity occurred for transporting them. The Court would therefore apply to the Secretary of State, to grant such public aid as might be thought proper, for this National object.

AUCTION DUTY.—A case of considerable consequence to the Agricultural Interest was lately decided by a numerous meeting of the Justices of the Peace of Ayr. An Auctioneer had been employed, by two farmers, to sell by auction some of their crop and stock, the produce of their farms. In consequence of a general letter from the Commissioners of Excise, containing the opinion of the King's Counsel, on several points relating to the auction laws, to their collectors, it is directed that Auctioneers of cattle, corn, live or dead stock, when made by tenants and farmers, and not immediately by the proprietors of the land or their stewards or agents, shall be charged with auction duty.—Therefore the Auctioneer was charged with the duties. He accordingly applied to his employers, who resisted payment, and he brought an action against them for the recovery of the same. The Justices, after a very careful consideration of the Process on the question, and the clause of the Act, which the Defenders claimed exemption by, pronounced the following judgment, "That no Tenant, in the occupation of any farm, is liable to any Auction Duty on the sale of any cattle, live or dead stock, corn, or other produce of land, providing always the sale is made whilst they continue on the lands producing the same; and the same being *bona fide* the first sale, and the produce of such farm; all in terms of the Act of Parliament;

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acquitting the Defenders, and find no expences due." We understand that this important question will be finally determined in the Court of Exchequer.

SCOTS CLERGY.—We understand that the Committee, appointed by the Commission of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, presented a petition to the House of Commons, against the late bill for suspending the powers of the Commision of Tiends;—and that two Clerical Members of the Committee have gone to London for the purpose of obtaining information concerning the new measures about to be proposed to the Legislature upon the same subject, and of taking any steps in regard to them which the interests of the Church may require.

ABERDEEN, *Dec.* 27.

"On Saturday last, we had a hard gale of wind from the S. W. accompanied with heavy rain, which continued during the greatest part of the day. The Dee, however, did not appear to rise much higher than it had been for some days previous, until about midnight, when (being low water) it swelled suddenly to a most extraordinary degree, rushing forward in a torrent, which deepened the harbour several feet perpendicular in a few minutes. In its progress, a large raft of wood was swept away from the upper part of the harbour, and coming against a tier of vessels, broke them from their moorings. One of them, a Prussian galliot, after going down the harbour with the raft, carried off a tier of vessels, which in its turn broke another tier adrift, and both were driven on a shoal below, being only prevented from going to sea by want of water. By the exertions of a number of seamen and others collected on the first alarm, the vessels were, with considerable difficulty and danger, in a few hours moored in safety; one with the loss of her bowsprit, another with both anchors broken, and most of them more or less damaged. The Union smack, of this place, was driven to sea, with only one boy on board; but the master, with several seamen, having gone off in boats, succeeded in getting on board the vessel, then a considerable distance at sea, and carried her into Peterhead the same day, with damage. The galliot, with the master on board, went also out of the harbour, but, by immediate assistance, was after some time brought in again, with an anchor broken and water-logged. Fortunately no lives were lost on the occasion.

A letter from Kirkwall says—"The 25th December was the most dreadful day remembered by the oldest inhabitant of this tempestuous climate.—After a morning ominously dark, there arose about two o'clock P. M. a sudden and tremendous hurricane, by which several houses were unroofed, and the steeple of our venerable cathedral partially injured. The Traveller of Leith, C. Cruikshanks master, which was at anchor off Flota, was driven on the rocks of that island, and totally wrecked, with the loss of her crew and passengers, in number 14, with the exception of one boy who clung to the rigging, and remained there for 24 hours, with no other support than a bottle of Riga Balsam, which he accidentally had about him.—There is also a vessel stranded at Burghhead, in South Ronaldsay, and of the crew, twelve in number, nine perished. The master of a Danish vessel, likewise wrecked in Flota, in attempting to swim ashore with the child on his back, intending to return for his wife, was buried with his precious burden in the deep, leaving his wife, the only survivor of the crew, to lament her husband and child."

Cow-Pox.—Such are the blessed effects resulting from the Vaccine or Cow-pock inoculation, that during last year, fifteen children only have died of the small-Pox in Glasgow. In the year 1797 the number was 231! The following is a correct statement of the number of children who have died of the small-pox in Glasgow, and neighbourhood, during the last ten years, as extracted from their annual list:

In the year	1797—231	In the year	1802—194
	1798—179		1803— 91
	1799—224		1804—123
	1800—159		1805— 21
	1801—107		1806— 15

By an advertisement from that useful institution, the Edinburgh Public Dispensary, it appears that in the year 1806, one thousand seven hundred and fifty children have been inoculated *gratis*, and the total number since that important discovery is seven thousand and

sixty-six, all of whom have gone thro' the disease with perfect safety, and many of them have been since exposed to the small pox, and not one of them has been infected by that loathsome disease. Many of the children inoculated for the cow-pox must have died of the small pox, had it not been for the great discovery of the vaccine inoculation.

On the forenoon of the 16th of Feb. the Telegraph Coach from Glasgow to Edinburgh broke down near West Craigs, The outside passengers were thrown off, and one young man, who got entangled about the coach, was killed on the spot. The others were not materially injured.

Civil Appointments.

Jan. 14. His Majesty has been pleased to appoint his Grace Charles Duke of Norfolk, Earl Marshal, to be Lord Lieutenant of the county of Sussex.

——To appoint Alexander Straton, Esq. to be his Majesty's Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary at the Court of Stockholm.

——. To appoint William Wellesley Pole, Esq, to be his Majesty's Secretary of Embassy to the Sublime Ottoman Porte.

Jan. 27.——To appoint Thomas Tod, Esq. Advocate, to be one of the four Commissaries of Edinburgh, vacant by the resignation of Andrew Balfour, Esq.

—— To appoint Andrew Duncan, jun. Esq. to be Professor of Medical Jurisprudence and Medical Police to the University of Edinburgh.

Jan. 28. The Town Council of Edinburgh appointed Mr Alexander Callender a Deputy City Clerk, in room of Mr James Laing deceased.

Feb. 4. The Town Council appointed Mr Charles Cunningham, conjunct City Clerk, along with Mr John Gray, with the survivancy to the longest liver.

Feb. 7. —— To appoint James Moncrief, Esq. Advocate, to be Sheriff Depute of the shires of Clackmannan and Kinross, in the room of David Monypenny and David Williamson, Esqrs. resigned.

—— To appoint David Monypenny, Esq. Advocate, to be Sheriff Depute of the Shire of Fife.

—— To appoint David Williamson, Esq. Advocate, to be Sheriff Depute of the shire of Stirling.

Feb. 11. The Town Council appointed Mr Hugh Bairnsfather conjunct Dean of Guild Clerk, along with Mr Charles Cunningham.

Military Appointments.

His Majesty has appointed his Grace Hugh Duke of Northumberland to be Col. of the Royal Regt. of Horse Guards Blue, vice the Duke of Richmond deceast.—And Brig. Gen. Wm. Carr Beresford to be Col. of the 88th Regt. of Foot, vice Gen. Reid deceased.

MARRIAGES.

Jan. 19. At manse of Arbirlot, David Phillip, Esq. merchant, London, to Miss Elizabeth Watson, daughter of the Rev. Mr Watson, minister of Arbirlot.

24. At Rossie Castle, Thomas Hamilton, Esq. to Mrs Charnock.

—. At London, the Hon. Colonel Ponsonby, to the Hon. Miss Fitzroy, daughter of Lord Southampton.

—, At Bath, Captain Elwin, of the 44th regiment, to Miss M'Glashan, only daughter of John M'Glashan, Esq. late of Jamaica,

—. John Scott, Esq. of Norwich, to Miss Savill, only daughter of Joseph Savill, Esq.

26. At Renfrew Manse, James Liddell, Esq. of St Petersburgh, to Miss Eliza Burns, eldest daughter of the Rev. Thomas Burns, minister, Renfrew.

29. At Banff, Mr Francis Gordon, advocate in Aberdeen, to Miss Elizabeth Gordon, eldest daughter of James Gordon, Esq, merchant in Banff.

31. At Aberdeen, Mr Charles Johnston, merchant, to Miss Margaret M'Lean, daughter of Mr James M'Lean, of the Customs, Aberdeen.

—. At Henbury, Captain Hale, of the Royal North Gloucester militia, eldest son of J. Blagden Hale, Esq. of Aldersey, to the Right Hon. Lady Theodosia Bourke, sister to the Earl of Mayo.

Feb. 2. At Campbeltown, William MacMillan, Esq. Royal Marines, to Miss Catharine Campbell, daughter of Captain John Campbell, late of the Prince of Wales Revenue Cutter.

2. At Edinburgh, Archibald Buchanan, Esq. of Torry, Collector of Customs, Campbelton, to Miss Georgia Lindsay, of Kirkforthar, county of Fife.

2. At Dundee, Thomas Kinloch, Esq. of Kilrie, to Miss Anne Morley, third daughter of the late James Morley, Esq.

2. At London, Sir Daniel Fleming, Bart. of the county of Cumberland, to Miss Fleming, daughter and sole heiress of the late Sir Michael Le Fleming, Bart. of Rydall Hall, in Westmoreland.

3. At Ditto, Samuel Allen, Esq. Royal Navy, to Miss Margaret Ewans, only daughter of Alexander Ewans, Esq. Royal Navy.

5. At Edinburgh, William Mackenzie Esq.

Esq. of Strathgarve, surgeon, 5th regt. British militia, to Miss Ann Williams Mackenzie, only daughter of John Mackenzie, Esq. Middlefield, and late of Jamaica.

Feb. 5. At Newcastle, Mr J. Alison, merchant in Leith, to Miss Bell, daughter of the late John Bell, Esq. of Gallowhill-house, Northumberland.

5. At Aberdeen, Arthur Anderson, Esq. late of Madras, to Miss Margaret Skene, daughter of the late Dr George Skene.

8. At Brechin, Mr James Morris bookseller there, to Miss Susan M'Laren.

9. At Glasgow, Lieutenant G. Macdonald, of the 68th regiment, to Miss Sarah Mitchel, daughter of Captain Mitchel of Glasgow.

9. At Glasgow, Mr Thomas Lancaster, merchant in Greenock, to Miss Jane Kelly, daughter of William Kelly, Esq. merchant, Glasgow.

9. At Southampton, Thomas Graham, Esq. to Miss Home, daughter of the late Major Home.

10. At London, by the Lord Bishop of London, the Rev. Edward Hodgson, late domestic Chaplain to his Lordship, to Miss Fullarton, daughter of John Fullarton, Esq, of Sundridge, in Kent.

10. At ditto, by the Lord Bishop of Gloucester, Robert Harry Inglis, Esq. only son of Sir Hugh Inglis, Bart. to Miss Biscoe, eldest daughter of Joseph Seymour Biscoe, Esq. of Penderhill in the county of Surrey.

10. At Barham Court, the seat of Lord Barham, William Henry Hoare, Esq. eldest son of Henry Hoare, Esq. to Miss Noel, daughter of Gerard Noel, Esq. of Exton Park, Rutlandshire, and grand-daughter of Lord Barham.

11. At Wolterton, in Norfolk, the Hon. and Rev. William Wodehouse, youngest son of Lord Wodehouse, to Miss Hussey, eldest daughter of Thomas Hussey, Esq. of Galtrim, in Ireland, and grand-daughter of Lord Orford.

11. At London, the Hon. and Rev. Edward Taylor, brother to the Marquis of Headfort, to Miss St Leger, eldest daughter of Colonel St Leger, and niece to Viscount Doneraile.

—. At London, Capt. Irvine, of the 6th Dragoon Guards, son of the late Right Hon. General Sir John Irvine, K. B. to Miss Antrobus, only daughter and heiress of the late John Antrobus, Esq. of Grove House.

—. At Glasgow, Mr William Brown, insurance broker, to Miss Martha Bogle, eldest daughter of the late George Bogle, Esq. of the Hon. East India Company's Civil Establishment, Bengal.

Feb. 11. At Glasgow, Mr William Landale, to Miss Elizabeth Ronald.

17. At Stirling, Capt. James Galloway, royal navy, to Miss Jane Athol Duthie, second daughter of the late Wm. Duthie, Esq.

20. At Edinburgh, Alexander Wood, Esq. of his Majesty's Civil Establishment in the Island of Ceylon, and youngest son of Alexander Wood, Esq. surgeon in Edinburgh, to Miss Forbes, eldest daughter to the late Sir William Forbes of Pitsligo, Bart.

23. At Edinburgh, George Gordon, Esq. of Hallhead, to Miss Napier, eldest daughter of the Hon. Charles Napier, of Merchistonhall.

—. At ditto, Mr Samuel Cunningham, writer in Edinburgh, to Miss Elizabeth Milne, daughter to Mr John Milne, ironmonger.

BIRTHS.

Nov. 25. At St Petersburgh, her Imperial Majesty, consort to his Majesty the Emperor of all the Russias, of a Grand Duchess, being her first child.

Jan. 28. At London, the Marchioness Cornwallis, a daughter.

—. At ditto, Mrs Murdoch of Tavistock Square, a daughter.

28. At Ipswich, Mrs Craigie of Glendoick, of a a son, who died next day.

—. At Cleland-house, the Lady of Marton Dalrymple, Esq. of Fordel.

Feb. 1. At Chester, the Lady of G. V. Brown, Esq. of Knockmarloch, a daughter.

2. At London, the Duchess of Montrose, a son.

4. At Fairholm, Mrs Hamilton, a son.

10. At Dublin Castle, her Grace the Duchess of Bedford, a son.

11. At London, the Countess of Aberdeen, a daughter.

— At Newmains, Mrs Gordon, a daughter.

—. At London, the Lady of Malcolm Ross, Esq. a daughter.

13. At London, the Countess of Loudon and Moira, a son, who died next day.

13. At Edinr. Mrs Hay, wife of Mr James Hay, writer to the signet, a daughter,

—. At London, the Lady of the Hon. General Sir Arthur Wellesley, a son and heir.

— At Havant, the Lady of Major Craufurd, a daughter.

—. At Chatham, the Lady of Captain Fyres, of the royal navy, a son.

—. At London, the Lady of Henry Davidson, Esq. a son.

20. At Gifford Vale, Mrs Gardner, a son.

DEATHS.

DEATHS.

July 10. At Vellore, in the East Indies, in an insurrection of the Sepoys, Lieut.-Colonel James M'Kerras, eldest son of the late Mr Andrew M'Kerras, merchant in Leith, and brother to the late Major William M'Kerras of the corps of royal engineers, who was killed in the service of his country, in the memorable expedition to Egypt, under the gallant Sir Ralph Abercromby. Col. M'Kerras had served in India upwards of 28 years, with much credit to himself and honour to his country, and was much respected as a steady, active, and humane officer.

Aug. At Bridgetown, Barbadoes, the Hon. John Ince, who was to have succeeded Lord Seaforth, as President of the Assembly. He died on the very day that he was to have been sworn in. His death was occasioned by a negro driving a horse furiously against him just as he mounted his own.

Oct. Lieut. William Steuart, of his Majesty's ship Leda, son of the late William Steuart, Esq. advocate, in consequence of the wounds he received in an attack made by the boats of the Leda on a Spanish vessel in Rio de la Plata.

10. At St George's in Grenada, Mr William Ross, son of the late Mr Alexander Ross, of Aberdeen.

—. At Kingston barracks, Jamaica, Lt. John Sutherland, of the 85th regiment, son of the late Rev. John Sutherland, minister of Dornoch.

—, At Grenada, Mr Hector M'Askill.

—. At Honduras, Thomas Potts, Esq, Senior Magistrate of that settlement, aged 68, having resided there about 45 years, much beloved and respected.

Jan. 2. At Verdun, in France, Dr Jackson, an English physician. His funeral was attended by all his fellow-countrymen who are prisoners of war, as well as by the medical Gentlemen and the inhabitants of Verdun, whose esteem and friendship he had gained by the benevolence which he displayed towards the unfortunate of every description.

10. At Hopsrigg, near Langholm, aged 86, Mr Walter Borthwick.

—. At Firth in Orkney, the Rev. James Malcolm, minister of that parish, much regretted, leaving a widow and a large family. On these circumstances being represented to Lord Dundas, the patron, he immediately appointed Mr Malcolm's eldest son to the vacant living.

13. At Glasgow, aged 22, Mr William Esten, student of divinity.

18. Mr Thomas Logan, merchant of Drumderfit.

20. At Musselburgh, Mrs Gardiner, relict of the late Mr Patrick Gardiner.

21. At Hassiogton-mains, Mrs Gillon, widow of the Rev. Robert Gillon, late minister of Saint Boswells.

22. At Dumfries, Mrs Lilias Shortridge, wife of Mr John Locke, merchant.

22. Mrs Read, sen. of Logie.

23. At Stirling, Mr James Irvine, wood-merchant.

24. At Edinburgh, Mr Thomas Laing, aged 77 years.

24. At Berwick, John Clark, Esq. a very considerable West India planter.

25. At Leith, Mr John Jameson, late wine merchant.

25. At Aberdeen, Mrs Catharine Dalmahoy, spouse to Mr Archibald Duff, teacher of dancing.

26. At Fortrose, Kenneth M'Kenzie, Esq. of King's Arms Yard, London, aged 23 years.

26. At Perth, Robert Morison, second son of James Morison, bookseller there, a promising youth of 21.

—. At his seat at Pauls Walden, Herts, the Hon. George Bowes, second son of the late Earl of Strathmore.

—. At Warkworth, John Watson, Esq. Major of the northern division of the Percy Tenantry volunteer riflemen, and formerly Major of the 65th regiment.

—. At Berwick, Thomas Hills, aged 89, the oldest burgess of that corporation.

27. At Edinburgh, William Bruce, Esq. of Cowden.

27. At Nairn, Ensign Donald Ross, of the royal invalids.

27. At Edinburgh, Mrs Agnes Wood, aged 72, daughter of the late Mr John Wood, Collector of Excise.

27. At Edinburgh, in an advanced age, Mrs Amelia Fleming, relict of Dr James Chalmers, surgeon to the 31st regt. of foot.

27. At Glasgow, Mrs Mary Harvie, relict of the late Rev. James Morison, one of the ministers of Paisley.

28. At Glasgow, Mrs Ann Gillespie, wife of Colin Gillespie, Esq. merchant.

28. At Crieff, Mr James Glass, stamp-master.

—. At Glasgow, Mr John Galbraith, late of Falkirk.

28. At Leith, Mrs Ann Bridges, spouse of Mr Peter Lamb, merchant there.

29. At Haddington, Alexander Fraser, Esq. Sheriff Clerk of Haddingtonshire.

29. At Edinburgh, Mr Campbell Adie, writer to the signet.

30. At Leith, aged 78, Mrs Catherine Bachop, relict of Mr Andrew Peacock, tobacconist, Leith.

31. At Aberdeen, much and justly regretted, Mrs Euphemia Mavor, spouse of the Rev. Robert Doig, minister of Trinity Chapel.

—. At Dunfermline, Mrs Forrester, relict of John Forrester, Esq. of Culmore.

Jan.

Jan. 31. At Leith, Mr W. Laing, baker.

31. At Kelvinhead, aged 72, Mr Nicol Baird, Surveyor of the Forth and Clyde Navigation.

31. At Keithmore, Banffshire, Major Marshall, of the Hon. East India Company's service.

Feb. 2. At Edinburgh, Mrs Elizabeth Scott, relict of Mr John Richmond, merchant, Edinburgh.

3. At Aberdeen, Mrs Cruickshank, relict of the late Bailie James Cruickshank.

5. At Leith, Mr John Melvill, officer of Excise.

5. Near Lauder, in consequence of a fall from his horse, which instantly put a period to his existence, Mr Bowmaker, for many years factor to the Earl of Lauderdale.

5. At London, at a very advanced age, General Paoli, famous for the part he took in the affairs of Corsica in the reign of Louis XV. and being the godfather of Bonaparte. The General had a pension of L.2000 a year from the British Government for above 30 years.

6. At Edinburgh, Mrs Ann Vans, widow of the late Hugh Hathorn of Castlewig, Esq.

6. At London, aged 86, Gen. John Reid, Col. of the 88th regiment of foot.

—. At Aberdeen, Alex. Simpson, Esq.

7. At Auchray, David Stewart, Esq. late of Haughton Court, Hanover parish, Jamaica.

7. At London, the Right Hon. Anne Blackwood, Baroness Dufferin and Claneboye, of the county of Ireland, and relict of Sir James Blackwood, Bart. She is succeeded in her title by her son, the Hon. Henry Blackwood, Captain of the Ajax man of war.

8. At Morebattle manse, the Rev. James Richardson, in the 76th year of his age, and 52d of his ministry.

8. At Carmichael-house, Jane Countess Dowager of Hyndford, in the 81st year of her age. She was relict of John Earl of Hyndford, who was many years ambassador at the Russian Court, and died in 1767.

9. At Newcastle, aged 41, Mrs Blair Wood, wife of Mr James Wood, physician in Newcastle.

9. At Edinburgh, in the 23d year of his age, Mr William Duncan, youngest son of Mr Alex. Duncan, writer to the signet.

9. At Chelsea, Sam. Wyatt, Esq. one of the most celebrated architects of the present day.

10. At St Andrew's, Mrs Wilson, relict of the deceased Dr Wilson, late Professor of Church History in the University of St Andrew's.

10. At Arlary, George Arnott, Esq. of Arlary.

—. At Ayr, Mrs Wilson, relict of the Rev. John Wilson, minister of Neilston.

11. At Edinburgh, Master John Ogilvie, youngest son of Adam Ogilvie, Esq. of Hartwoodmyres.

11. At St Andrew's, Mr Thomas Carstairs, merchant there.

12. At Hawick, Mr George Ogilvie, messenger there.

12. Mrs Margaret Forbes, widow of Mr George Forbes, of Bethnal-green.

12. At Dumfries, Mr John Hutton, late merchant there.

13. At Dumfries, Mrs Helen Rogerson, wife of Thomas Maxwell, Esq. of Drumpark.

14. At Morpeth, where he had been minister of a dissenting congregation for 51 years, aged 75. the Rev. Robert Trotter, of Windyhaugh, in Northumberland.

14. At Edinburgh, in the 35th year of her age, after a short illness, Mrs Margaret Tough, only daughter of the deceased Dr Jasper Tough, physician in Kilmarnock, and wife of John Gordon, Esq. of Carleton, writer to the signet.

15. At Anstruther, Mrs Forrester, wife of Mr Geo. Forrester, Collector of the Customs at that port.

15. At London, Miss Grieve, of Great Marlborough-street, daughter of the late Dr Grieve, of the Charter-house.

—. At ditto, Thomas Lashley, Esq. M. D. and F. R. S.

16. At Edinburgh, aged 68, of a cramp in the stomach, the Right. Hon. Elizabeth Countess Dowager of Dalhousie, relict of George Earl of Dalhousie, and daughter of the late Gov. Glen.

16. At Somerside, Christopher Armstrong, Esq. late soap-maker, Lugton, near Dalkeith.

—. At London, Mr William Wood, son of the late Dr Robert Wood, of Perth.

—. At Bath, John Gordon, Esq. M. D. Physician to the King of Denmark for the Danish West India Colonies.

—. At Greenwich, Mrs Lind, sister-in-law to General Borthwick, of the royal artillery.

—. George Wright, Esq. many years a Major in the service of the Hon. East India Company.

— At Highbury Grove, Mrs Martha Karr, relict of Arthur George Karr, Esq.

—. At Hamburgh, Mr Charles Twigg, formerly a merchant in London.

17. At Edinburgh, aged 52, after a tedious illness of 14 months, Sir William Ramsay of Bamff, Bart. and writer to the signet.

18. At Edin. Mrs Janet Matthew, wife

of

of Mr Andrew Laurie, teacher of dancing, Thistle Street, Edinburgh.

18. At Walthamstow, Thomas Weatherhead, Esq.

—. At Yarmouth, the Lady of Admiral Edgar.

—. At Clifton, Lady Hesketh, relict of the late Sir Thomas Hesketh, Bart.

—. Mr William Taplin, veterinary surgeon, author of various publications, which gave rise to improvements in the veterinary art.

Lately, near Wooller, in Northumberland, aged 87, Sir Patrick Claud Ewins, Bart. who formerly married Signiora Centucci, a Neapolitan lady, by whom he had issue an only son, born at Eagle-Hall, Somerset; this son marrying without his father's consent, the latter formed the resolution, and did dispose of all his estates, and invested the whole produce thereof in the public funds, and withdrew into very humble retirement about forty years since, leaving his son (since deceased) the scanty pittance of 40l. a year only, and whom he never afterwards could be prevailed upon to be reconciled to, or see. The deceased, it appears, made many wills, and by the last, after giving in legacies about 40,000l. bequeathed the residue of his immense property (exceeding, it is said, 300,000l. Sterling) to a distant relation at Newry, in Ireland, who dying but a short time before the testator, the title and whole residue of this splendid fortune devolved by lapse to Mr James Ewins (now Sir James Ewins, Bart.) the testator's grandson, of Newport, Monmouthshire, perfumer, a man of unblemished character, probity, and integrity, with a large family of children.

Price of Stocks.

1807.	Bank Stock.	Omnium.	3 per cent Consols.
Feb. 2.	218	6½ par	61 ¼
9.	219	6¼ ...	61 ½ ¾
16.	220	7½ ¼ ...	62 ⅝
23.	225 6	7½ ⅜ ...	62 ½

Prices of Grain per quarter, Corn Exchange, London.

1807.	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	Pease.
	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.
Feb. 2.	70 80	29 36	21 28	48 66
9.	70 82	30 40	21 29	50 70
16.	72 84	30 38	20 29	50 70
23.	72 82	30 38	20 28	50 66

Prices of Grain at Haddington.

1807.	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	Pease.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Feb. 6.	41 6	27 0	21 6	23 0
13.	42	27 0	21 6	23 0
20.	42 0	26 0	21 0	23 6
27.	42 0	27 0	22 0	23 0

Prices of Oat, Pease, and Barley Meal, in Edinburgh Market, per Peck.

1807.	Oatmeal. Bolls.	Oatmeal. Price.	Pease & Barley Meal. Bolls.	Pease & Barley Meal. Price.
		d. d.		d. d.
Feb. 3.	270	17 16½	50	15 13
10	300	17 16½	—	15 13
17.	300	17 16½	59	15 13
24.	310	17 16½	50	15 13

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

The same very intelligent and well-informed gentleman, who sent us the letter, which appeared in our last, from King David II. will enable us next month to present our readers with a still more curious article, regarding some transactions which took place at Paisley in the course of last century. We hope for the repetition of similar favours from the same quarter.

We are obliged to *Duncan A.* for his friendly admonitions. Since he says he has time on his hands, we shall be very glad if he will employ it in amusing or instructing our readers.

The conclusion of the Life of Dr *Pennecuick* will appear in our next; as will probably also *B. S.*

G. has a good deal of humour, and will probably find an early place.

J. M'D. has considerable poetical merit, though he has perhaps indulged rather too freely in the Scottish dialect.

The tribute to the memory of *Lord Nelson* will appear in our next.

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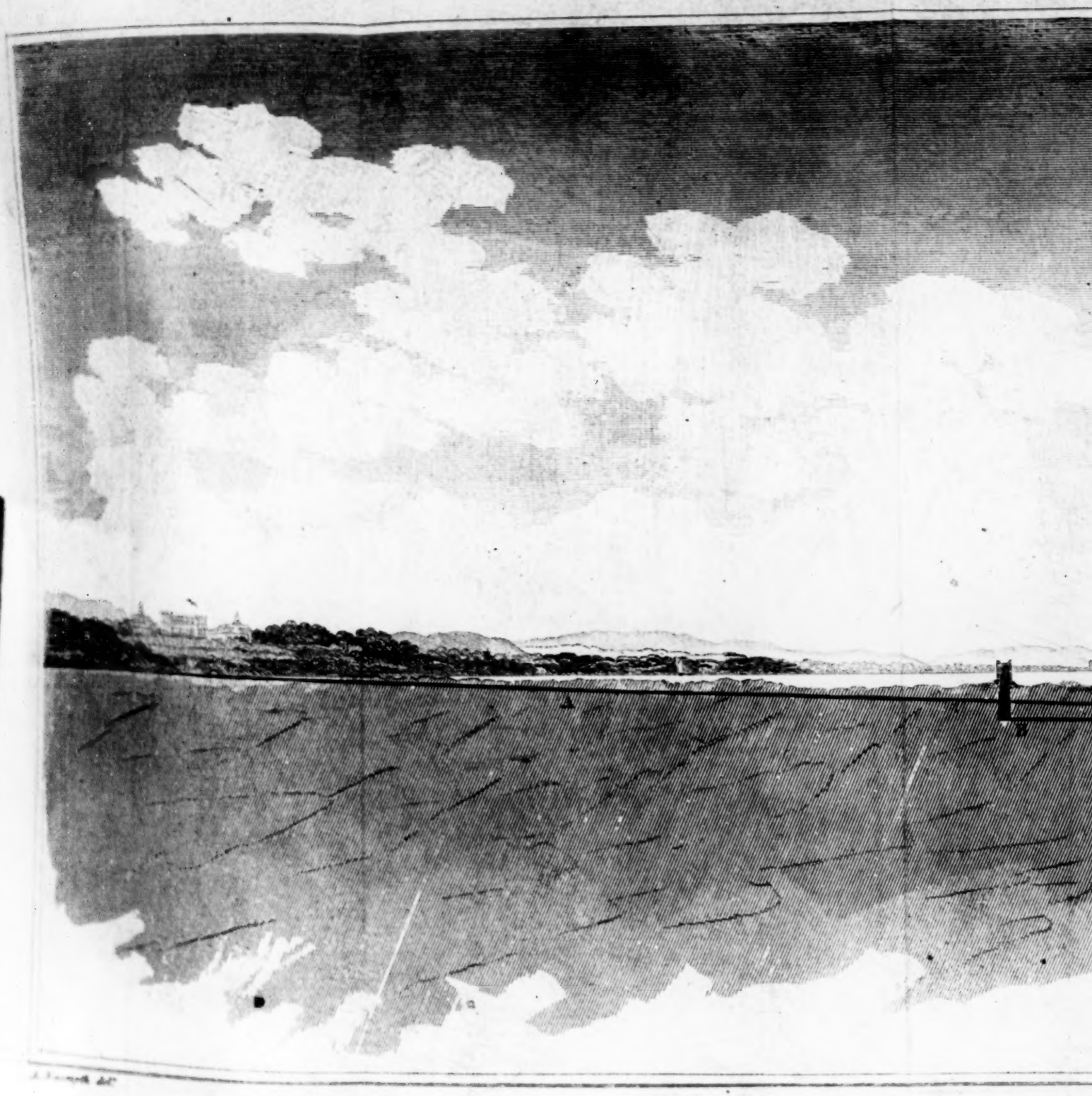

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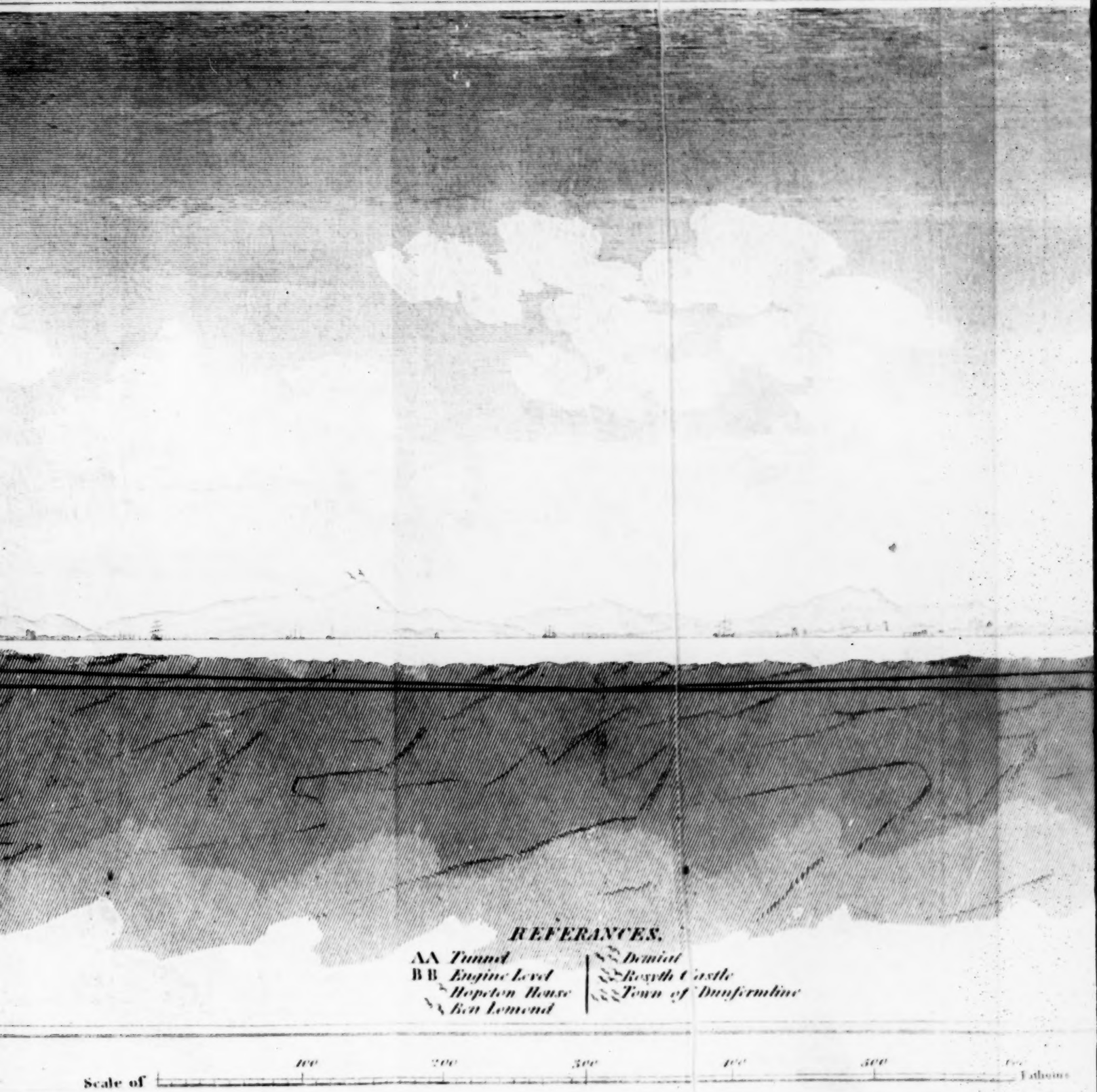

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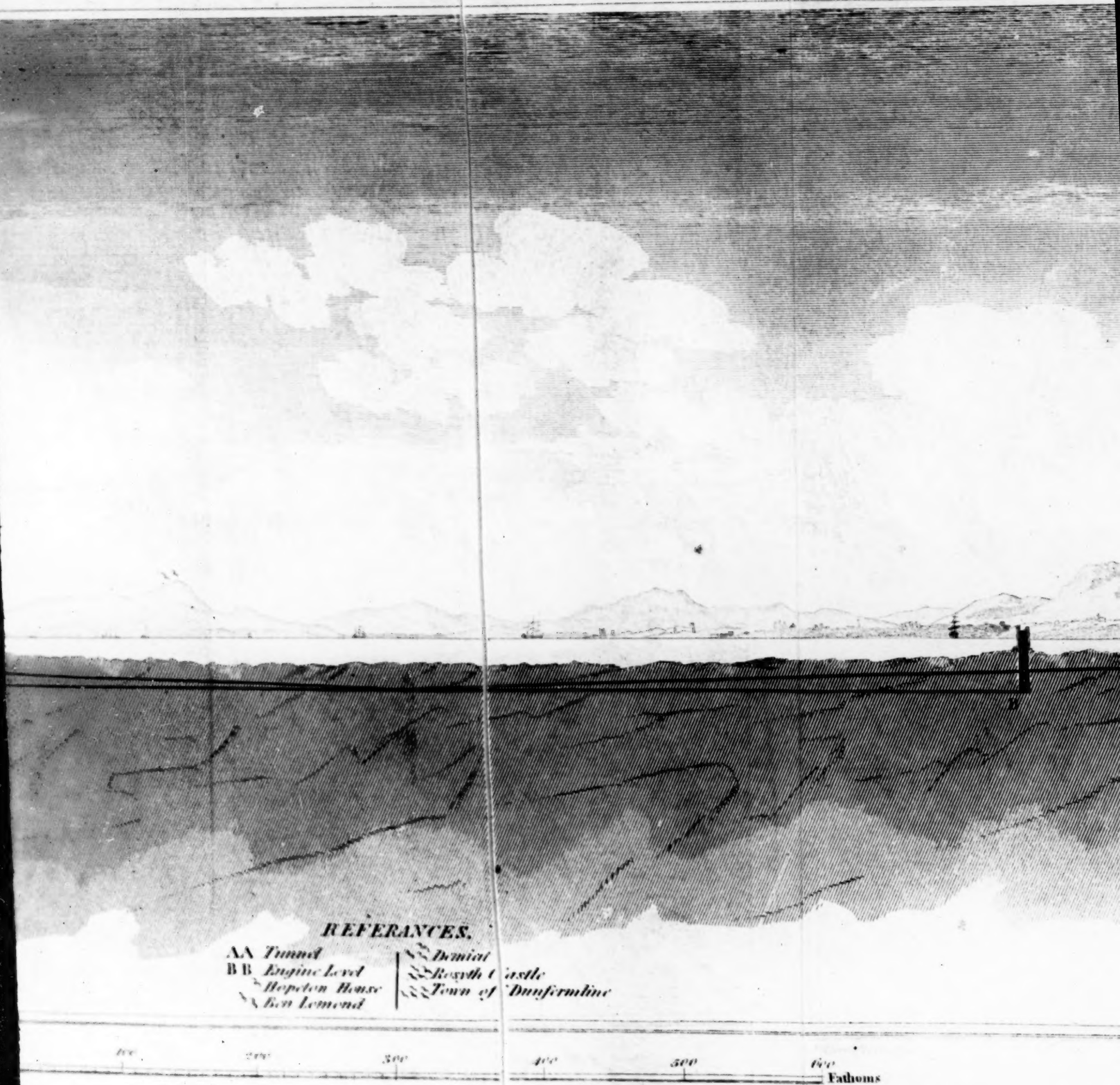
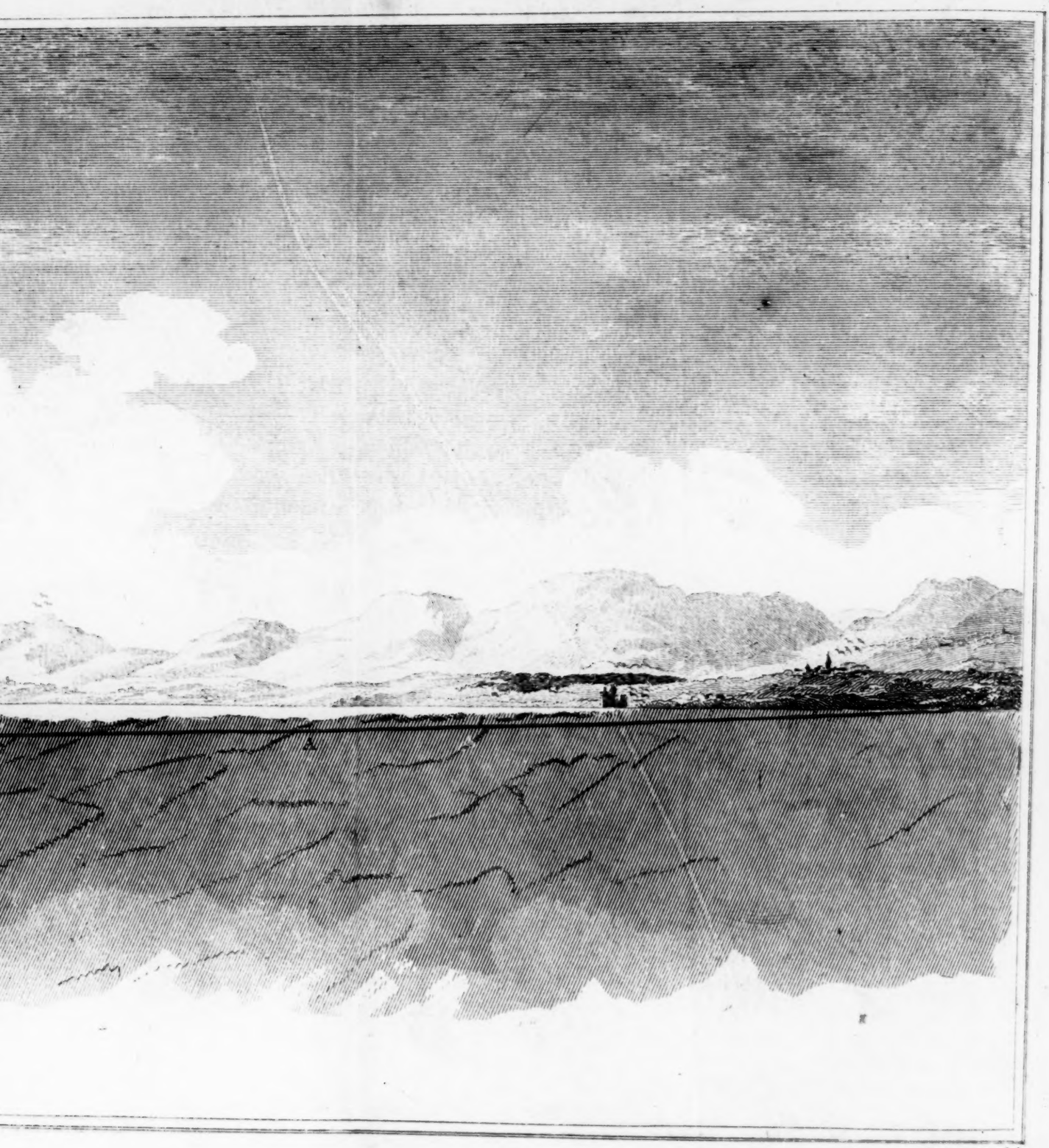


OPETON HOUSE TO ROSYTH CASTLE WITH THE *PROF*



R. Scott sculp.

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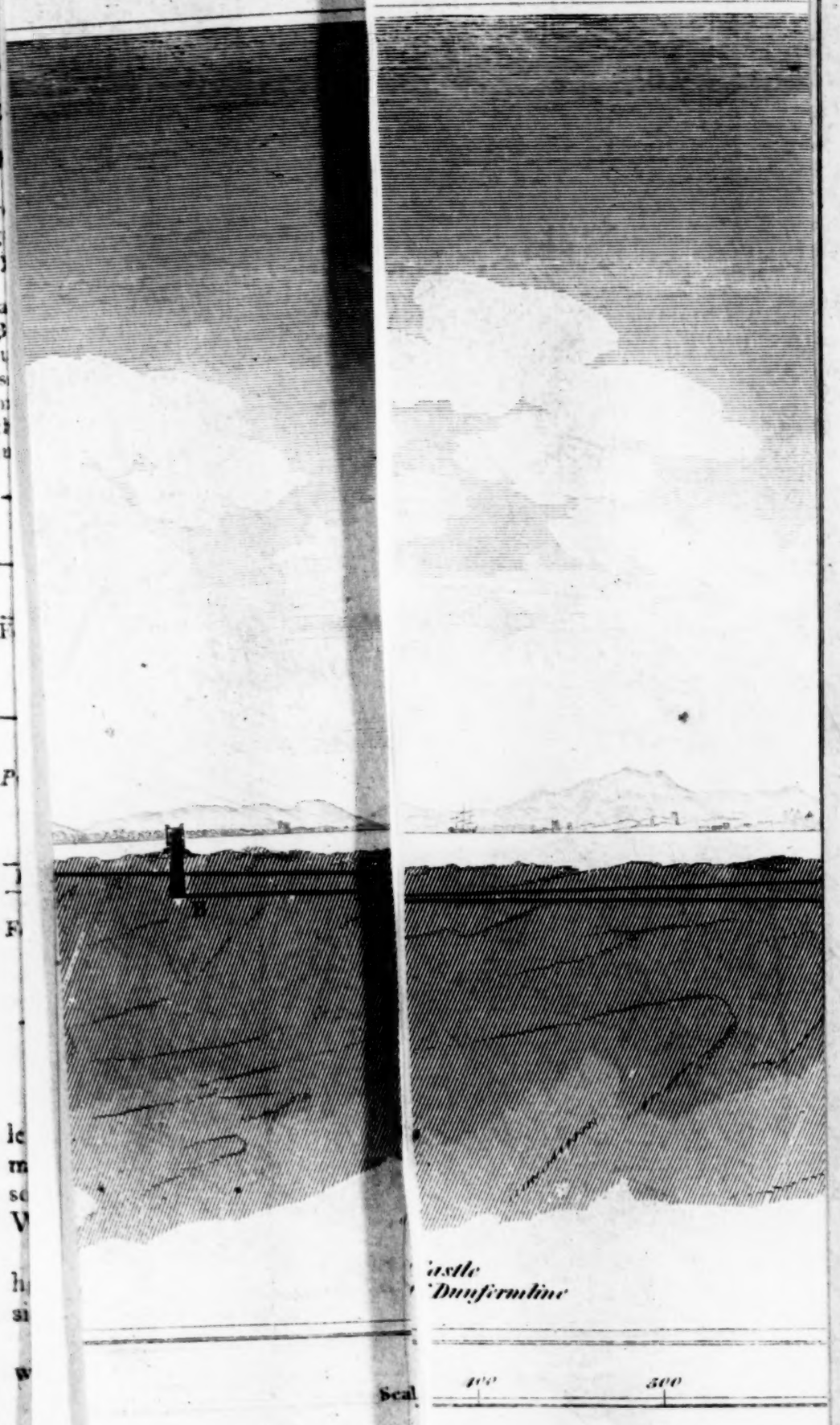

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